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SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

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This paper was prepared as a student project in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Professional Development for Outdoor Recreation Management Program at Clemson University. It in no way reflects USDA Forest Service policy nor are the opinions expressed those of anyone other than the author.

ABSTRACT

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TITLE: South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule

ABSTRACT: The 1964 Wilderness Act defined and outlined the purpose of the Wilderness Preservation System. Public Law 96-560 designated the South San Juan Wilderness Area as a component to the National Wilderness Preservation System including additional Congressional direction. National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans provide directions and standards for managing Wilderness.

The Rio Grande and San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans provide adequate Wilderness direction [standards and guidelines, management prescriptions (desired future conditions) and monitoring requirements] but these plans do not outline specific management actions needed to comply with the Forest Plan direction.

The South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule will outline current conditions in conjunction with Forest Plan direction in order to develop strategies which identifies needed management actions; sets priorities and targets; assigns responsibilities for the management actions and identifies costs needed to implement the management actions.

The intent of the South San Juan Implementation Schedule is to outline management actions to assist the respective District Wilderness Managers and on-the ground Wilderness Rangers determine their annual program of work and allow District Wilderness Managers the ability to integrate the management action costs into their respective District budget processes.

KEYWORDS: Forest Plan Direction, Managment Actions, Priorities, Annual Program of Work, Funding.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule

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SUMMARY: The purpose of this project is to outline and prioritize needed management actions in the South San Juan Wilderness for use by District Wilderness Managers and Wilderness Rangers to develop their annual program of work and integrate the management action costs into their District budgeting process.

This project was initially started in the fall of 1990 when a coordination meeting with the Conejos Peak District and the Pagosa District was held to identify Forest Service concerns and establish various mailing lists. Letters were sent to interested publics, range permittees and outfitters identified by the Districts which informed them of the following: defined the term Implementation Schedule; notified them of the Forest Service's intent to develop a Implementation Schedule for the South San Juan Wilderness; outlined the Forest Service's concerns; and requested their comments and concerns. Outfitters were told the issue of capacity determination would not be addressed in the Implementation Schedule, but would be handled as part of the Forest Plan revision process. News releases were placed in numerous newspapers in Colorado and New Mexico containing the same information as outlined in the letters sent to our interested publics.

My research involved a literature search dealing with the subject matter on Implementation Schedules. I reviewed and have referenced these documents or publications: Public Law 96-560, the Colorado Wilderness Bill which legislatively designated the South San Juan Wilderness; Wilderness Management Philosophy in the Rocky Mountain Region; The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) System for Wilderness Planning; Ideas for Wilderness Implementation Schedules; Managing Wilderness Recreation Use: Common Problems and Potential Solutions and Low-Impact Recreational Practices for Wilderness and Backcountry. This research was done for reference purposes and to assist in the development of the South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule.

The research was beneficial in providing background information and direction for developing this Implementation Schedule. Public Law 96-560, R-2 Wilderness Management Philosophy and Ideas for Wilderness Implementation Schedules dealt with the purpose of the Wilderness Act and provided useful guidelines for developing an Implementation Schedule.
Limits of Acceptable Change, Managing Wilderness Recreation Use: Common Problems and Potential Solutions and Low-Impact Recreational Practices for Wilderness and Backcountry delt with management processes and techniques.

Because each wilderness area is unique, Wilderness Implementation Schedules should be written for each wilderness area. Common elements that a Wilderness Implementation Schedule should address are: Forest Plan direction, describe current conditions and establish management goals and actions necessary to comply with the Forest Plan direction or identify Forest Plan direction changes needed to protect the wilderness resource.

Portions of this project which were done on my own involved the research work and the Implementation Schedule documentation and Action Plan. Coordination work associated with this project involved the scoping process; District personnel and specialist input and review of the Forest Plan direction, goals and needed action items.

Additional coordination will occur when all parties associated with this Implementation Schedule will review the draft document and be allowed additional input prior to the final decision and approval of the South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule targeted for the fall of 1992.

SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Rio Grande and San Juan
National Forests

South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule

ACTION ITEMS	PRIORITY	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST
AIR AND WATER RESOURCES				
a. Synoptic Lake Survey	1	1992	District & Forest Hydrologist	$1,600
b. Air Quality Monitoring Plan	2	Completed	Forest Hydrologist	$3,400
c. Future Lake Surveys	2	Biannually	District & Forest Hydrologist	$1,600 every 2 years
d. Air Quality Data	1	Annually	Districts	$2,500
e. Bacteriological Samples	3	1994	Districts	$8,400 for 10 lakes
f. Validation of water rights	2	1995	Wilderness Manager	$5,300
RIPARIAN RESOURCE				
a. Develop riparian classifications	2	1993	Forest Hydrologist	$1,700
b. Complete riparian inventory	1	1992	Districts & Forest Hydrologist	$4,500
c. Monitor 30% of streams/riparian areas	1	1993; Annually	Districts	1993 - $1,700; Annually - $1,500
d. Develop riparian inventory map	2	1993	Forest Hydrologist	$350
SOIL RESOURCE				
a. Maintain soil monitoring	1	1993 - Monitor every 3 years	Wilderness Rangers	$1,500
b. Soil reclamation prescription	3	When needed	Wilderness Managers & Forest Soil Scientist	$400

ACTION ITEMS	PRIORITY	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST
MINERAL RESOURCE				
a. Monitor unauthorized mining	2	Annually	Wilderness Rangers	$1,300
VEGETATION RESOURCE				
a. Complete computation campsite data	1	1993	Wilderness Managers	$2,300
b. Reevaluate 30% of campsites	1	1993 - every 3 years thereafter	Wilderness Rangers	$3,700
c. Evaluate campsite location w/setting	2	1994	Wilderness Managers	$3,700
d. Monitoring plan for "Special Concern Species"	2	1995; Implement in 1996	Wilderness Managers, Forest Ecologist, State	1995 - $2,100; Annually - $500
INSECT AND DISEASE				
a. Monitor for activity	3	Annually	Wilderness Rangers	$400
FIRE RESOURCE				
a. Suppression Action	2	When fire occurs	District Ranger	$5,000 per fire
RANGE RESOURCE				
a. Management of allotments	1	Annually	Range Department	$4,200
b. Allotment prioritization list	2	1992	Range Staff & Range Conservationists	$400
c. Coordinate allotment management	1	Annually	Range Staff, Assistant Staff, Wilderness Managers	$1,000
d. Update range analysis	3	When funded	Range Conservationists	$1,700 per allotment
e. Monitor key range areas per allotment	1	Annually	Wilderness Rangers, Range Conservationists	$1,800
f. Annual permittee meetings	2	Annually	Range Staff, Range Conservationists	$3,000

ACTION ITEMS	PRIORITY	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST
g. Coordination meeting with DOW	2	1992	Range Staff, Wilderness Managers, Wildlife Biologist & DOW	$1,000
h. Forage utilization standards - outfitters	2	1994; Monitor annually	Range Staff & Wilderness Managers	1994 - $1,500; Annually - $3,000
FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCE				
a. Evaluate wildlife impacts	2	When revising allotment plans	Wildlife Biologist & Range Conservationists	$2,700
b. Monitor ecosystems conditions and trends	1	1993; every 3 years thereafter	Wildlife Biologist & Wilderness Rangers	1993 - $2,200; Annually - $2,200
c. Coordinate/develop fish stocking plan	2	1994	Wildlife Biologist, Wilderness Managers & DOW	$1,200
d. Conduct wildlife T & E species check	2	1995	Wildlife Biologist & Wilderness Rangers	$1,500
PROPOSED WILD & SCENIC RIVER				
a. Inventory proposed river segments	2	1994	Wilderness Rangers & Wilderness Managers	$1,100
b. Work for designation	2	On-going	Districts and Recreation Staff	$3,000
CAVE MANAGEMENT				
a. Develop cave management plan -- Contingent on cave discovery	3		Recreation Staff and District	$5,000
CULTURAL RESOURCES				
a. Survey/document cultural resources	2	1997	Archeologist and Paraprofessionals	$2,100
b. Informational/educational material	2	1998	Archeologist and Wilderness Managers	$6,000

ACTION ITEMS	PRIORITY	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST
LAW ENFORCEMENT				
a. Enforce current Forest orders	1	Annually	Level Iv & Level II Wilderness Rangers	$2,500
b. Level II Law Enforcement Training	1	When needed	Wilderness Managers & Wilderness Rangers	$5,000
SEARCH AND RESCUE				
a. Develop search & rescue plan	1	1993	District Ranger, Wilderness Managers & County Sheriffs	$1,200
TRANSPORTATION				
a. Develop sign plan	2	1996	Wilderness Rangers	$2,200
b. Develop trail log	1	1996	Trails Specialist & Wilderness Rangers	$3,600
c. Maintain existing trails, signs, and trailheads	1	Annually	Trail Crew & Wilderness Rangers	$35,000
RECREATION MANAGEMENT				
a. Develop social monitoring system	1	1994; Implement 1995	Wilderness Managers & Wilderness Rangers	1994 - $1,000; Implement - $3,000
b. Develop visitor use monitoring system	1	1994; Implement 1995	Wilderness Managers & Wilderness Rangers	1994 - $1,000; Implement - $3,000
c. Continue party-size limits	1	On-going	Wilderness Rangers	$1,500
d. Educational/informational material	1	1994	Recreation Staff & Districts	$6,000
e. Wilderness training	1	Annually	Wilderness Managers & Wilderness Rangers	$1,200
OUTFITTERS				
a. Monitor outfitter operations	1	Annually	District Personnel	$11,200
b. Capacity determination	1	1993	Recreation Staff & Districts	$5,200

ACTION ITEMS	PRIORITY	TARGET DATE	RESPONSIBILITY	COST
c. Outfitter permits	1	Annually	Wilderness Managers	$5,000
d. Monitor outfitter actual use	1	1993/Annually	Wilderness Managers	$2,500
e. Randomly monitor outfitter records	1	1992/Annually	Wilderness Managers	$700
f. Outfitter training	1	1994; On-going, every 3 years	Districts	$2,000
INFORMATION AND EDUCATION				
a. Educational/Informational material	Reference Item D - Rec. Mgmt			
b. South San Juan map	1	1993	Recreation Staff & Districts	$7,000
c. Pocket-size information cards	2	1994	Recreation Staff & Districts	$3,500
d. Outfitter training	Reference Item D - Outfitters			
e. Develop Widlerness information in Spanish	2	1995	Recreation Staff & Districts	$3,500
ADMINISTRATION				
a. District coordination meetings	1	Annually	Wilderness Managers & Rangers	$1,200
b. Incorporate WIS costs into budget process	1	Annually	Wilderness Managers	$500
c. Use volunteers to monitor	1	On-going	Districts	$5,300
d. Wilderness training sessions	1	Annually	Districts, Forest & Region	$5,000

SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

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I. Preface

The purpose of this Wilderness Implementation Schedule is to outline and prioritize needed management actions within the South San Juan Wilderness for use by District Wilderness Managers and Wilderness Rangers. It should also be used in establishing their annual program of work and integrating the management action costs into the respective District budgeting processes.

This document is based on the direction outlined in the 1980 Colorado Wilderness Act (Public Law 96-560; Section 101(b)) and the Rio Grande and San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans. These Management Plans outline wilderness area direction; management-area prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for the management-area prescriptions. Reference Appendix A - Public Law 96-560 and Appendix B - Rio Grande and San Juan Wilderness Area direction, management-area prescriptions, and prescription area maps.

Certain concepts of the Limits of Acceptable Change System (prescription areas, standards and indicators) were used in the development of the Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests Land and Resource Management Plans. If Forest Plan standards are being met, no additional management action will be prescribed other than to continue monitoring on a scheduled basis. Where Forest Plan standards are not being met or a change is required, strategies and management actions will be prescribed to correct the inconsistency.

II. Introduction

The South San Juan Wilderness is located in south-central Colorado (Reference Appendix C - Vicinity Map and South San Juan Wilderness Map) which encompasses the eastern extent of the San Juan Mountains including a segment of the Continental Divide. The 133,463 acre South San Juan Wilderness was designated in 1980 by Public Law 96-560 with administration divided between the Conejos Peak Ranger District (88,463 acres), Rio Grande National Forest and the Pagosa Ranger District (45,000 acres), San Juan National Forest.

The Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests Land and Resource Management Plans allocated three management prescriptions within the South San Juan Wilderness. These management prescriptions are:

8A: Provides for Pristine Wilderness Opportunities - 56,592 acres
8B: Provides for Primitive Wilderness Opportunities - 11,007 acres
8C: Provides for Semi-Primitive Wilderness Opportunities - 65,864 acres

Reference Appendix B for information on management-area prescriptions, management direction and prescription area maps.

Public Law 90-542, as amended, directed the Secretary of Agriculture to study the Conejos River for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

As a result of a 1979 Environmental Impact Statement and recommendation by the Secretary of Agriculture to Congress, the Rio Grande National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan has allocated a wild and scenic river prescription for the management and protection of the proposed river segments until such time as its disposition is determined. Reference Appendix G.

III. Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this Wilderness Implementation Schedule is to outline and prioritize needed management actions or administrative tasks within the South San Juan Wilderness to meet Forest Plan standards and wilderness management goals. This document is to be used by Wilderness Managers and Wilderness Rangers in establishing their annual program of work and integrating the management action costs into their District budgeting process.

This document should be viewed as the establishment of wilderness management activities for the next 5 years within the South San Juan Wilderness. It should be subject to refinement as the scope or knowledge of wilderness and resource management expands.

The objectives for managing the South San Juan Wilderness are:

1. The recommended management actions are consistent with the Rio Grande and San Juan Forest Plan wilderness prescriptions, standards, Forest Service Manual policies, objectives and direction.

2. The Wilderness Implementation Schedule is to be a usable document and the approved management actions are implemented by Wilderness Managers and Wilderness Rangers.

3. Perpetuate and preserve the existing wilderness character as directed in the Wilderness Act.

4. Emphasize the Region 2 Management Philosophy regarding Wilderness Management.

   "In most issues between the biophysical wilderness resource and human desires, the resource and its preservation will be given priority because all wilderness values depend on the naturalness of wilderness."

   "Wilderness is a composite resource with inseparable parts, and the central focus of management must be on the interrelationships of the whole, not on its component parts."

IV. Scoping Process

Coordination meetings with the Conejos Peak and Pagosa Ranger Districts took place in the fall of 1990 to identify issues or concerns they felt should be addressed in the Implementation Schedule and to put together a mailing list of interested publics, range permittees and outfitters.

Involvement of our interested publics and request for their ideas and concerns with regard to the development of the South San Juan Implementation Schedule were solicited in the following manner:

During the 1990 summer and fall season, the Conejos Peak Ranger District placed public notices on their trailhead bulletin boards at their major Wilderness entry points notifying users the District would be assessing its management of the South San Juan Wilderness and requested their comments and concerns.

In August of 1990, a press release was placed in the following Colorado and New Mexico newspapers: Alamosa Courier, Monte Vista Journal, Del Norte Prospector, South Fork Times, Pagosa Springs Sun, Taos News, Rio Grande Sun and Albuquerque Journal.

The press release stated the Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests were in the process of developing an Implementation Schedule for the South San Juan Wilderness and requested anyone having an interest in this wilderness area submit their ideas or concerns to the Rio Grande National Forest.

After the Districts compiled their mailing lists, letters along with the Districts' identified concerns were sent to those identified publics, range permittees, and outfitters notifying them about the development of the South San Juan Implementation Schedule and requested their comments, concerns or ideas.

Reference Appendix D regarding the Press Release, Mailing Lists and Letters.

V. Identified Public/Forest Service Concerns

The public comments received as a result of the scoping process indicated numerous concerns should be addressed in the Implementation Schedule. The following overview outlines the concerns received from our interested publics:

Campsites

Condition of campsites and trash; location of some range permittee and outfitter camps; need to monitor site condition and trends; crowding especially around lakes and need for designating sites; lack of solitude.

Education

Need to educate visitors about Wilderness values; Wilderness rules, manners and proper use of the Wilderness; need for educational material especially for horse users and Wilderness regulations; enforce Wilderness regulations.

Fire

Natural-occurring fire should be allowed to burn.

Grazing

Concern with the numbers of sheep allowed to graze; permittees not controlling their livestock causing overgrazing of the vegetation; need to assess commercial use along with the grazing use; condition of established camps (trash and location); request to phase out grazing and hunting; consider rights and privileges of existing permittees; conflict between domestic sheep grazing within bighorn sheep habitat.

Monitoring

Should monitor use throughout the Wilderness and assess established trends.

Outfitter and Guide Use

Amount of horse use and their impacts (damage) to existing trails; lack of solitude because of the number of horse users encountered; trash not being taken out; overgrazing of areas because horses are not being moved; outfitters leaving partial camps within the Wilderness; educate outfitters about proper use in the Wilderness; limit group sizes allowed; shorten the duration of use by larger parties.

Trails

Multiple trails; lack of trail maintenance within the Wilderness; condition of trails because of horse use; require trail maintenance be done; no new trail construction within this Wilderness; identify trail systems outside the Wilderness for visitors which provide the same type experience.

Trash

Trash and litter noted throughout the Wilderness; lack of knowledge by visitors to bury their human waste; numerous buried trash sites in the Wilderness which are found by wildlife; educate users to carry out their trash.

Vegetation

Inventory the ecosystems within the Wilderness; consider Threatened and Endangered plant species; too many campsites at most lakes; overgrazing in conjunction with livestock and outfitter use.

Wilderness Values

Manage the area's naturalness; manage the Wilderness for its wilderness values; address the East Fork Ski Area impacts upon the Wilderness; list private inholdings which could affect the wilderness character.

Wildlife

Do a wildlife inventory within the Wilderness; consider Threatened and Endangered animals; do a feasibility study for reintroduction of grizzly bear and wolf.

Wild and Scenic River

Implementation Schedule should not affect the proposed Wild and Scenic River designation.

Concerns identified by District personnel (Primary Resource Staff) are:

Trailheads

Assess their location, capacity, needs for new trailheads or closure of some.

Trail System

Need to inventory all trails to determine if reconstruction is needed, relocation or closure is required; assess opportunities outside Wilderness to lessen impacts in the Wilderness.

Signs

Do a sign inventory in conjunction with the trail inventory.

Use Trends and Campsite Conditions

Continue to monitor use throughout the Wilderness in conjunction with the various management prescriptions and condition of inventoried campsites.

Water Rights

Check the validity of water rights associated with the use of water (structures and pipes) within certain areas of the Wilderness.

Livestock Use

Provided for in Wilderness Act; tie management and mitigation to Allotment Management Plans.

Fire Policy

Outline fire management policy within the Wilderness.

Party Size/Camping Restrictions

Educate visitors and enforce when necessary.

Fisheries

Coordinate stocking of lakes with the Division of Wildlife.

All concerns outlined in this section will be addressed when the management actions are formulated for the various resources outlined in Section VIII.

Upon completion of this Implementation Schedule, it will be released for public comment in late fall of 1992. Comments received be reviewed and assessed with a final decision made in the winter regarding the Implementation Schedule Management Actions.

VI. Implementation Schedule Process

The process in the development of this Implementation Schedule is as follows:

Portions of this project which I completed on my own involved the literature search dealing with the subject matter on Implementation Schedules and management techniques and the Implementation Schedule documentation and Action Plan.

Coordination work needed for this project involved public scoping; District Staff and Forest Resource Specialists input regarding the biological and physical resources and review of the Forest Plan direction, goals, and action items.

A more in-depth outline of the process involved: coordination meetings were scheduled with Ron Decker (Pagosa District, Recreation and Wilderness Staff); John Capell (Conejos Peak District, Primary Staff for Timber and Recreation); Jim Hong (Conejos Peak District, Sub-staff for Recreation and Wilderness); Paul Crespin (Conejos Peak District, Primary Staff for Range and Widlife); and William Joslin (Conejos Peak District, Sub-staff for Wildlife). At these meetings, I went over the purpose and intent of the Implementation Schedule, gave an overview of the information (outline) to be addressed in the Implementation Schedule and requested specific program management information from these folks.

I then had a coordination meeting with the various Forest Resource Specialists (John Rawinski, Soil Scientist; Les Dobson, Hydrologist; Vince Spero, Archeologist; Phil Anderson, Silviculturist; Dean Erhard, Ecologist; Rick Metzger, Wildlife Biologist; and Jim Krugman, Fire Specialist) and reviewed with them the purpose and intent of the Implementation Schedule and provided them an example of the type of information needed from them related to their resource field.

Upon receipt of the District and Forest Specialist information, I wrote the Implementation Schedule and made additions or changes to the goal statements or action items based on the identified public and Forest Service concerns. The Conejos Peak District Staff and several of the Forest Resource Specialists were given the opportunity to review and make comments on the rough draft prior to finalizing the document.

VII. Analysis Process

The desired future conditions and management direction established in the Rio Grande and San Juan Land and Resource Management Plans will be met by implementing the Action Plan outlined in this Implementation Schedule.

The following is a summary of the process used in developing the management actions and associated Action Plan.

The management direction outlined in the Forest Plan is compared with the current conditions or situation in the Wilderness. Inconsistencies between the Forest Plan direction and the current conditions are assessed in conjunction with the concerns outlined in Section V and strategies (goals and management actions) are developed for use in preparing the Action Plan (action items, priorities, target date, responsibilities, and costs).

The challenge of wilderness management is not one of how to prevent any human-induced change, but one of deciding how much change will be allowed to occur and where, and the actions needed to control it (Limits of Acceptable Change, P.1-Introduction). The Limits of Acceptable Change System developed by George H. Stankey, David N. Cole, Robert C. Lucas, Margaret E. Petersen, and Sidney S. Frissell was used in developing the management direction and standards outlined in the Rio Grande and San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans. The Limits of Acceptable Change provides a means of determining the range of resource and social conditions acceptable in a variety of wilderness settings. It helps managers identify what management actions are needed to achieve desired conditions. This process has been incorporated into this document and will be used in assessing additional management decisions within the South San Juan Wilderness.

Forest Service General Technical Report INT-230-Managing Wilderness Recreation Use; Common Problems and Potential Solutions and Region Two Management Philosophy were used in formulating strategies (goals and management actions) to meet Forest Plan Management Direction.

Wilderness management is a dynamic process and strategies outlined in this Implementation Schedule may change as new issues evolve or new knowledge or resource techniques are developed. Reference Appendix I.

VIII. Forest Plan Direction, Current Situation, Goals and Management Actions

A. Biological Resources

AIR AND WATER RESOURCES

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Protect air quality related values from adverse effects of air pollution.

   b. Improve or maintain water quality to meet State water quality standards.

2. Current Situation:

   Tobacco and Trail Lakes were sampled during the 1985 EPA Western Lakes Survey. The primary objective of this survey was to establish background data from which to assess severity or wilderness area high elevation acidification. The results of the tests taken from Tobacco and Trail Lakes showed no indication of acidification from this one-time sampling.

   Bacteriological and other water quality sampling has not been conducted within the South San Juan Wilderness.

An air and water quality monitoring plan has been established for the Rio Grande National Forest. The goal of this plan is to select lakes from geologic types that will provide the least buffering capacity. A synoptic survey of selected lakes within various geologic types is scheduled for the field season of 1992. Results from this survey will help determine the most sensitive lakes to monitor for trends. The main objective will be to test for lake acidification.

The San Juan National Forest in cooperation with the Wolf Creek Ski Area is establishing air monitoring devices at a location on the Ski Area to gather air quality baseline data for the Weminuche Wilderness. This air quality data can be used to determine effects of pollutants within the South San Juan Wilderness. This data will be monitored to establish air quality trends.

3. Goals:

   a. Monitor and establish baseline information for air quality condition.

   b. Monitor lakes and streams to ensure water quality complies with the Clean Water Act.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Continue to develop the Rio Grande's Air and Water Quality Monitoring Plan after the synoptic lake survey is completed. Adjust the plan as scenarios arise that warrant more intensive water quality monitoring. Lake monitoring schedules will be developed to monitor lake acidity trends.

   b. Coordinate with the San Juan National Forest and utilize visibility and other air monitoring data collected from the Wolf Creek Ski Area site to assess air quality trends within the South San Juan Wilderness. Monitor annually.

   c. Collect bacteriological samples from streams and lakes within the South San Juan Wilderness.

   d. Conejos Peak Ranger District needs to check the validity of water rights associated with the use of water occurring in the Platoro area. Take administrative action if there are no valid water rights. If valid water rights are in place, put structures and pipes under special-use permit.

RIPARIAN RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Manage all component ecosystems of a riparian area. These components include aquatic ecosystems, riparian ecosystem (characterized by distinct vegetation), and adjacent ecosystems that remain within approximately 100 feet measured horizonally from each edge of all perennial streams and from the shores of lakes and other still water bodies.

   b. Rehabilitate disturbed soils where adverse impacts would occur according to the following: aquatic ecosystems; riparian ecosystems; riparian areas outside of aquatic and riparian ecosystems.

   c. Minimize soil surface compaction and disturbance in riparian ecosystems.

2. Current Situation:

   An inventory of riparian areas has not been completed for either the Rio Grande or San Juan National Forests.

   The Rio Grande National Forest will do a basic inventory to identify locations and extent of riparian areas on the Forest in 1992. The Forest is working with the Colorado Division of Wildlife to test the feasibility of using Land Stat imagery to do this survey.

   The primary impacts to riparian areas within the South San Juan Wilderness comes from livestock grazing and recreational use. Livestock grazing is being brought into compliance with Forest Plan standards and guidelines by developing or updating allotment management plans. Recreation impacts will be assessed with the monitoring of inventoried campsites in conjunction with the vegetative resource.

3. Goals:

   a. Inventory riparian areas (location and extent) within the South San Juan Wilderness.

   b. Develop a classification system for riparian areas.

   c. Improve conditions and trends throughout the watersheds associated with the South San Juan Wilderness.

   d. Preserve and protect water quality and riparian habitat.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Manage riparian areas in accordance with Forest Plan General Direction and Standards for riparian areas (Prescription 9A).

   b. Forest Hydrologist will develop a riparian classification system by 1993.

   c. Complete riparian inventory (location and extent) in 1992. Beginning in 1993, monitor biannually 30% of perennial streams and riparian areas for condition and trends.

   d. Develop an inventory map of riparian areas and key streams within each watershed. Classify riparian areas when classification system becomes available.

<u>SOIL RESOURCE</u>

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Give trail special design consideration to prevent resource damage within capability areas containing soils with high shrink-swell capacity.

   b. Prevent livestock and wildlife grazing which reduces the percent of plant cover to less than the amount needed for watershed protection and plant health.

   c. Restore soil disturbance caused by human use to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area.

   d. Identify riparian areas. Reduce on-site erosion by 95% within five years after initial disturbance.

2. Current Situation:

A Soil Resource Inventory has been completed for the Rio Grande National Forest including the South San Juan Wilderness. This inventory provides guidelines to assist managers in dealing with resource problems. Presently, there is very little documented information about serious soil resource impacts. With the limited data collected to date, some generalizations can be made. These are: high compaction and erosion of camp sites are noted, especially near lakes; trail erosion is occurring in some areas because of extensive horse use. These include trails located in wetlands and near streams. Poor trail locations are also evident; livestock grazing and poor distribution may cause soils to erode in certain areas.

3. Goals:

a. Protect soil and water productivity so that neither will be significantly nor permanently impaired. This includes the protection of riparian and wetland areas.

b. Evaluate soil conditions in conjunction with other resource monitoring plans.

4. Management Actions:

a. Maintain soil monitoring and management beginning in 1992 by:

(1) Identify problem areas and use the soil maps as a planning tool to assist in mitigating the problem.
(2) Coordinate management of existing allotments to monitor soil impacts from grazing. Use allotment and outfitter-guide operating plans to make permittees aware of soil resource problems and work towards better grazing practices.
(3) Monitor recreation-caused (campsite) soil disturbances. Use soils maps as a planning tool to assist in mitigating the problem.

b. Soil reclamation prescriptions should be matched to the main soil types identified on the soil maps.

MINERAL RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

a. The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 declared that, subject to valid rights existing prior to December 31, 1983, wilderness areas would be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation and disposal under the mining and mineral leasing laws.

2. Current Situation:

The only known valid claim in the South San Juan is an unpatented claim owned by Mr. Vern Davis of Alamosa, Colorado. His claim is primarily outside the Wilderness, but some falls (Township 36 North, Range 3 East, Sections 25 and 26) within the Wilderness. Mr. Davis has met with the Forest Service Specialists and has assured them that any assessment work will be done on areas outside the Wilderness. No additional mineral activity is anticipated within the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Recognize the rights of mineral claimants as specified by the 1872 Mining Laws as amended and by the Wilderness Act.

4. Management Action:

   a. Monitor for unauthorized mining activity and take appropriate law enforcement action as necessary.

VEGETATION RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Pristine Setting

      Prohibit open fires when occurrence of fire-rings exceed Frissell Class 1 site conditions on 10 percent or more of the known campsites within the management area. Provide for Frissell Condition Class 1 and 2 campsites only.

   b. Primitive Setting

      Manage sites to provide opportunity for moderate to high degree of solitude. Use a minimum site spacing of 500 feet. Provide for Frissell Condition Class 1 and 2 campsites only. Capacity - campsites occupied at lakes - less then 5 acres - 2 sites; 5-25 acres - 3 sites and greater than 25 acres - 4 sites. Number of campsites per mile of stream and trails - open areas - 2 sites per mile; forested area - 4 sites per mile.

   c. Semi-Primitive Setting

      Allow undesignated sites in Frissell Condition Class 1 through 3 where unrestricted camping is permitted.

      Manage summer use to allow moderate to high contact with other groups and individuals. Minimum site spacing is 300 feet. Capacity - campsites occupied at lakes - less than 5 acres - 2 sites; 5-25 acres - 3 sites and greater than 25 acres - 4 sites. Number of campsites per mile of stream and trails - open areas - 3 sites per mile; forested areas - 6 sites per mile.

      Reference Appendix E for Frissell Condition Class definitions.

   d. Meet the purpose and policy of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

2. Current Situation:

   A campsite inventory was conducted in the South San Juan Wilderness during the field seasons of 1986 and 1987. A majority of the campsites inventoried were located around lakes or within frequently traveled drainages. The Conejos Peak District inventoried 125 campsites. The data computation for these sites has not been completed. The Pagosa District has inventoried 35 campsites which show 11% in Class 1 condition, 42% in Class 2 condition; 38% in Class 3 condition and 9% in Class 4 condition. No sites were recorded in Class 5 condition.

There are no known records of any Threatened or Endangered plants in the South San Juan Wilderness. Threatened and Endangered plants are determined and listed by the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service and can be found in 50 Code of Federal Register 17.12, July, 1991. There are eleven Threatened and Endangered plants listed for Colorado and none are known to occur in the South San Juan Wilderness.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the State of Colorado also recognize and identifies sensitive plants which they term "Candidate Species" and "Special Concern Species".

The State of Colorado lists endangered, threatened, rare, endemic, unique or vanishing species and these plants are protected under State law. The Colorado sensitive plant list is published by the Colorado Natural Areas Program and is entitled "Colorado Plant Species of Special Concern, April, 1991". This edition lists 270 plant species. The following are documented in Conejos and Archuleta Counties within the South San Juan Wilderness:

FISH & WILDLIFE CATEGORY	STATE CATEGORY	SPECIES	LOCATION
Conejos County None	3*	Eriophorum gracile	Township 34 North, Range 4 East, Section 19
Archuleta County None	3*	Cryptogramma stelleri	Township 36 North, Range 1 East, Section 4
* Category 3 - Plant species which appear to be rare, but conclusive information is lacking.			

3. Goals:

   a. Continue a monitoring program to assess impacts and changes to the vegetative resource.

   b. Determine if Forest standards are being met in conjunction with the vegetative resource for each wilderness setting.

   c. Monitor and perpetuate the known State "Special Concern Species".

4. Management Actions:

   a. By 1993, complete all data computation for all inventoried campsites.

   b. In 1993, reevaluate 30% of the inventoried campsites at the respective District's high use areas to determine if there is a measurable change in conditions from the 1986 survey information. If a change is not noted, evaluate campsite conditions (30-40% of total) every 3 years. If a change is noted, determine if designated campsites are needed. Rehabilitate all Frissel Class 4 sites and close and rehabilitate all Frissel Class 5 sites. Monitor campsite conditions on a three-year schedule after rehabilitation work is completed.

   c. By 1994, evaluate all campsite locations in conjunction with each wilderness setting. Bring campsites into compliance with Forest Plan standards.

   d. Coordinate with the Forest Ecologist and the State to establish a monitoring plan by 1995 for the identified "Special Concern Species". Implement the plan during the field season of 1996.

INSECTS AND DISEASE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Control natural insect or disease outbreaks in Wilderness only when justified by predicted loss of resource values outside of Wilderness. Conduct an analysis in accordance with FSM 3430.

2. Current Situation:

   The South San Juan Wilderness does not have any known insect or disease epidemics.

3. Goals:

   a. Allow insects and disease to operate in their natural environment and allow for natural ecosystem changes.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Monitor for insects and disease activities within the South San Juan Wilderness. Document any activity found and monitor annually. Assess for its impact on resources outside of the Wilderness. If resource values will be affected, conduct an analysis in accordance with FSM 3430.

FIRE RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

   a. Suppress man-caused wildfires.

   b. Maintain fire-dependent ecosystems using prescribed fires ignited naturally. Reclaim areas disturbed as part of fire control activities to meet the visual quality objective of retention.

2. Current Situation:

   Fire activity within the South San Juan Wilderness has historically been infrequent to nonexistent. The high elevation moisture, cool temperatures and short summer season contribute to the infrequent fire activity. The Rio Grande National Forest has an approved Fire Plan which addresses fire suppression for wilderness areas.

   a. Human-Caused Fires

      These fires will be suppressed using strategies appropriate to meet management direction ranging from direct control (minimize acres burned) to other appropriate strategies that minimize cost and may increase the acres burned. Surveillance can be appropriate when the fire is expected to be self-confined within a defined area. It will be the responsibility of the District Ranger to determine the value of the threatened resource and the suppression action that is appropriate for the values involved.

   b. Naturally-Ignited Fires

      These fires can be managed to maintain fire-dependent ecosystems but must be in

conjunction with an approved prescribed fire plan. If there is not a prescribed fire plan, the fire will be treated as a wildfire and suppression will be commensurate with the value of the resources involved.

When suppressing fires in the Wilderness, firefighters will follow guidelines spelled out in the publication "Light Hand Tactics in Fire Management" by Bill Moody and Francis Mohr of Region 6.

3. Goals:

   a. Suppression strategies and tactics employed shall consider impacts to the Wilderness.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Follow fire management direction outlined in the Rio Grande's Fire Management Plan for Human-Caused and Naturally-Ignited Fires which occur within the South San Juan Wilderness.

RANGE RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

General Wilderness Standards

   a. Implement revegetation only for rehabilitation of areas in less than "fair" range condition based upon their natural potential. Use only native species for revegetation. Implement only where natural vegetation possibilities are poor and where degradation is due to human activities.

All Wilderness Settings

   a. Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). Follow established forage utilization standards for areas within grazing allotments.

2. Current Situation:

Twenty grazing allotments are within or partially within the South San Juan Wilderness. The Conejos Peak District has 13 active allotments and 1 vacant allotment and the Pagosa District has 4 vacant allotments and 2 active allotments.

A summary of the allotments follows:

CONEJOS PEAK DISTRICT						
ALLOTMENT	LOCATION IN WILDERNESS	TYPE	PERMITTED NUMBERS	PERMITTED SEASON	USEABLE ACRES	RANGE CONDITION
Conejos Canyon 303	Partially In	Cattle	331	6/11 - 9/15	5,332	Unsatisfactory
Platoro 127	Partially In	Cattle	428	6/16 - 9/30	11,465	Satisfactory
Rough Creek 317	Partially In	Cattle	291	7/1 - 9/26	5,361	Satisfactory
Bancos Alazon 308	Entirely In	Sheep	400	7/11 - 9/15	7,060	Satisfactory
Dipping Lakes 310	Entirely In	Sheep	1035	7/11 - 9/15	3,689	Satisfactory
East Vega/Treasure 152	Partially In	Sheep	902	7/11 - 9/15	5,061	Satisfactory
Roaring Fork 316	Entirely In	Sheep	900	7/1 - 9/20	1,732	Satisfactory
Saddle Creek 318	Partially In	Sheep	900	7/1 - 9/20	1,876	Satisfactory
Jarosa/Mesa	Partially In	Sheep	800	7/1 - 9/15	1,143	Satisfactory
Mesa 315a	Partially In	Sheep	546	7/1 - 9/15	2,461	Satisfactory
North/Middle Forks 161	Entirely In	Sheep	1500	7/1 - 9/15	2,658	Satisfactory
Upper Adam/West Vega 176	Partially In	Sheep	1300	7/11 - 9/15	5,439	Satisfactory
Glacier 311	Entirely In	Sheep	Vacant		4,979	Satisfactory
Twin Lakes 319	Entirely In	Sheep	900	7/13 - 9/20	4,225	Satisfactory

PAGOSA DISTRICT	
ALLOTMENT	STATUS
Fish Lake	Vacant
Oil Mountain	Vacant
Sand Creek	Vacant
Summit	Vacant
East Fork	An active cattle allotment. A portion of this allotment is in the South San Juan Wilderness and is not being used.
Bear Canyon	An active cattle allotment. Only a small portion of this allotment is in the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Allow livestock grazing to continue in the South San Juan Wilderness within the capacity of natural vegetation and wilderness resources are protected.

   b. Reduce the conflict of domestic sheep use of bighorn sheep habitat.

   c. Improve all allotments with unsatisfactory range condition to a condition of satisfactory or better.

d. Revise Allotment Management Plans for those allotments within the South San Juan Wilderness.

4. Management Actions:

a. Maintain current management until revised allotment plans are developed.

b. Per FY92 Range Budget advice, develop an allotment prioritization list to include Wilderness allotments for revising allotment management plans to comply with Forest Plan direction and standards.

c. Annually, coordinate management of allotments in the South San Juan Wilderness with Wilderness Managers and Rangers to ensure protection of Wilderness resources.

d. Update range analysis commensurate with funding.

e. Annually, monitor one key range area per allotment to assess vegetative condition, trend, and forage utilization.

f. During annual permittee meetings and as a part of their approved operating plan, discuss and have them implement proper horse use techniques, minimum impact camping techniques, removing their trash, and relocating their camps on a more frequent basis to minimize impacts.

g. Discuss with the Conejos and Pagosa District Wildlife Officers mitigation options to reduce the bighorn sheep concern.

h. By 1994, establish forage utilization standards for commercial outfitters. Once these standards are established, make the standards a part of the outfitters permit and annual operating plan. Discuss the forage utilization standards with each outfitter when reviewing their annual operating plans. Monitor forage utilization annually and make adjustments as needed with the outfitters grazing use.

FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction:

a. Permit fish and wildlife research and management using guidelines adopted by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

b. Maintain habitat for viable populations of existing vertebrate wildlife species.

c. Manage and provide habitat for recovery of Threatened and Endangered species as specified in the Regional Forester's 1920 letter dated 6/25/82.

d. Manage human activity so that wildlife and plant species population dynamics and distribution occurs naturally. Prohibit fish stocking except for reintroduction of indigenous species or where stocking has been previously authorized and practiced.

2. Current Situation:

Representative wildlife species utilizing the South San Juan Wilderness on a seasonal basis includes: elk, mule deer, black bear, mountain lion, coyote, pine marten, marmots, pika, snowshoe hare, numerous song birds, goshawk and golden eagles. Streams and lakes are

inhabited by native cutthroat, brook, rainbow, and brown trout. This is not a complete list of wildlife species.

The South San Juan Wilderness provides summer range for elk. The elk population is increasing and elk use patterns and utilization should be monitored especially in the high elevation ecosystems. Old growth and riparian areas are important ecosystems within the South San Juan Wilderness. Limited information is available about the quantity, quality, and distribution of these ecosystems.

The Division of Wildlife had been stocking numerous high-elevation lakes prior to the Wilderness designation. These lakes continue to be stocked.

A bighorn sheep herd currently resides in the Fish Lake Area. The Division of Wildlife has expressed a concern that the domestic sheep grazing occurring on both sides of the Continental Divide will cause an epidemic of lungworm within the bighorn sheep herd.

The U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, has listed three wildlife species on their Threatened and Endangered Species list. These are: peregrine falcon (Falco pererinus); bald eagles (Haliaeetus leucocephalus alascanus), and the grizzly bear (Ursus arctos horriblis).

Currently there are no known grizzly bear residing within the South San Juan Wilderness. There is a study being conducted throughout the San Juan Mountain Range to determine if grizzly bears are still within this mountain range or if they should be reintroduced. Final consideration and decisions regarding their reintroduction lies with the U. S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Division of Wildlife.

There is a peregrine falcon nesting site located outside the South San Juan Wilderness but within five miles of the Wilderness boundary. It is unknown if the peregrine falcon uses the South San Juan Wilderness extensively when using their established nesting site. A Peregrine Falcon Recovery Plan has been written for the falcons on the Conejos Peak Ranger District and is available for review at the District office.

There are no known records of bald eagles residing within the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Emphasize and facilitate the protection of natural processes. Use the guidelines and policies adopted by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agreement. Reference Appendix F.

   b. Foster an ethic where natural processes rather than human actions determine existing and dominant wildlife species within the South San Juan Wilderness, while recognizing that hunting and fishing are allowed subject to federal and state laws and regulations.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Evaluate wildlife interaction and impacts upon the Wilderness ecosystems in conjunction with Allotment Management Plans.

   b. Monitor Wilderness ecosystems to assess vegetative conditions, trends and forage utilization.

   c. Coordinate with the Division of Wildlife to assess mitigating options to reduce the conflict of domestic sheep use within bighorn sheep habitat areas.

d. Coordinate and develop a fish stocking plan with the Division of Wildlife. Specify types of fish to be stocked and stocking methods. This plan should be developed and implemented by the field season of 1994.

e. Conduct a Threatened and Endangered species check of the South San Juan Wilderness by 1995. Establish a management plan if a Threatened and Endangered species is recorded.

PROPOSED WILD AND SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION

1. Forest Plan Direction:

a. Protect river segments that have been determined eligible for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System from activities that could diminish or change the values (free-flowing character, water quality, and the scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife and other values) which make the river eligible for designation.

b. Design and implement management activities to maintain a primitive ecosystem.

c. Manage site use and occupancy to maintain sites within Frissell Condition Class 3 except for designated sites which may be Condition Class 4. Close and restore Condition Class 5 sites.

d. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when:
   (a) use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, and
   (b) visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met.

e. Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors.

f. Protect habitat requirements over human activities, even on short-term basis. Priorities are: State and Federal classified Threatened and Endangered Species needs; permitted livestock, and recreational livestock.

g. Restore soil disturbance caused by human use to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment areas.

2. Current Situation:

Public Law 90-542, as amended, directed the Secretary of Agriculture to study the Conejos River for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. A study was conducted, an Environmental Impact Statement was written, and in July of 1979, the Forest Service and State of Colorado recommended to the Secretary of Agriculture their preferred alternative. The recommendation stated the upper segment of the Conejos River comprising the El Rito Azul (3.5 miles), the North Fork (3.5 miles), the Middle Fork (4.0 miles), the Conejos River from the confluence of the Three Forks to Platoro Reservoir (2.6 miles), and the headwaters of the South Fork beginning at Glacier Lake to its confluence (12.0 miles) with the Conejos River be designated as wild river. The wild river designation encompasses 25.6 miles of river and includes 8,192 acres. A 13.2 mile segment of river outside the wilderness from the town of Platoro to its' confluence with the South Fork Conejos be designated a recreational river including 4,224 acres. Reference Appendix G.

In 1982, the Secretary of Agriculture recommended to Congress that 36.8 miles (25.6 miles - wild and 11.2 miles - recreation) of the Conejos River be designated for inclusion into the

National Wild and Scenic River System. The River has not been formally designated but is addressed in the Rio Grande National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan for management and protection until such time as its disposition is determined.

3. Goals:

   a. Protect the free-flowing character, water quality, and associated resources of the Conejos River.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Inventory the proposed wild river segments to ensure Forest Plan standards are being met and primitive ecosystems are maintained by 1994.

   b. Work with the State, counties, and local communities to get the Conejos River designated into the Wild and Scenic River System.

B. Physical Resources

CAVE MANAGEMENT

1. Forest Plan Direction

   a. The Forest Plan does not address this resource.

2. Current Situation/Management Action

   There are no known caves within the South San Juan Wilderness. Should a cave be discovered within the Wilderness area, a cave management plan will be developed and implemented.

CULTURAL RESOURCE

1. Forest Plan Direction

   a. Do not provide interpretive facilities at cultural resource sites, restore or enhance cultural resources for recreation purposes.

   b. Avoid disturbance of known cultural resources until evaluated and determined not significant.

   c. Collect and record information from sites where there is no other way to protect the properties.

2. Current Situation:

   Extensive cultural resource inventories have not been undertaken within the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Preserve cultural resources within the South San Juan Wilderness.

   b. Conduct cultural resource surveys to locate and determine significance of sites.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Survey and document cultural resource sites by 1997.

   b. Develop informational and educational displays for use at wilderness trailheads by 1998 to inform the public about the value and importance of cultural resources, the need to preserve sites, and laws pertaining to cultural resources.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

1. Direction

   a. As outlined in the Region Two Wilderness Management Philosophy, provide law enforcement commensurate with wilderness objectives and situations.

   b. Present regulations in a positive manner using plain language.

2. Current Situation:

   The following regulations are in effect for the South San Juan Wilderness:

   General Prohibitions -

   Possessing or using a motor vehicle, motor boat or motorized equipment except as authorized by Federal Law or Regulation [36 CFR 261.16(a)].

   Possessing or using a hang glider or bicycle [36 CFR 261.16(b)].

   Landing of aircraft, or dropping or picking up of any material, supplies, or person by means of aircraft, including a helicopter [36 CFR 261.16(c)].

   Special Orders -

   Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.5(a), beginning March 15, 1991, until further notice; it is prohibited to possess, use, store or transport any of the following plants on the Rio Grande National Forest as specified in this order: hay, straw, mulch or untreated grain [CFR 261.58(t)].

   Pursuant to Title 16 USC 551, and Title 36 CFR 261.50(a); it is prohibited to shortcut a switchback on a Forest Developed Trail [36 CFR 261.55(d)].

   Pursuant to Title 16 USC 551, and Title 36 CFR 261.50(a); it is prohibited from June 10th through November 15th for groups larger than 25 (the total of horses, pack stock and people in one group, i.e., 15 horses and 10 people; 5 llamas and 20 people, 25 people, etc.) to enter the South San Juan Wilderness without a permit or written authorization [36 CFR 261.58(f)].

   Pursuant to Title 16 USC 551, and Title 36 CFR 261.50(a); it is prohibited yearlong to camp [36 CFR 261.58(e)] as well as picket, hobble, tether or graze pack or riding stock [36 CFR 261.58(aa)] within 300 feet of Blue Lake, Green Lake and Red Lake.

3. Goals:

   a. Provide for the protection of Wilderness resources through education but when necessary with law enforcement.

b. Use law enforcement at a level commensurate with Wilderness objectives and situations.

4. Management Actions:

a. Should informational and educational management techniques not achieve desired results, use direct restrictive law enforcement techniques.

b. Provide enforcement of current orders in order to meet Wilderness management objectives.

c. Train Wilderness Managers and Rangers to Level II Law Enforcement standards.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

1. Direction

a. The Region Two Wilderness Management Philosophy states: "Visitors are expected to be knowledgeable about and prepared to deal with conditions typically found in wilderness. The norm should be to expect more difficult travel conditions, few facilities, and a high reliance upon primitive survival skills and modes of travel. Managers are expected to provide reasonably accurate and timely information about what the visitor can expect to encounter. Safety messages should be stressed in all literature and through personal contact."

b. Forest Service Manual (FSM 2326.1) direction states: "Allow the use of motorized equipment or mechanical transport only for: (1) emergencies where situation involves an inescapable urgency and temporary need for speed beyond that available by primitive means. Categories include fire suppression, health and safety, law enforcement involving serious crime or fugitive pursuit, removal of deceased persons, and aircraft accident investigations." This authority is delegated to the Forest Supervisor.

c. Forest Service Manual (FSM 1599.03) states: "The role of the Forest Service in search and rescue is one of supporting and developing strong local and State leadership. The local public authority, usually the County Sheriff, is the agency with primary responsibility for the protection of life and property. Field personnel must continue to be responsive to public needs as they involve these aspects, with emphasis on supporting and cooperating with local officials."

2. Current Direction:

The Conejos and Archuleta County Sheriffs have search and rescue responsibilities within the South San Juan Wilderness. Search and rescue operations have occurred the past several years resulting from severe accidents and helicopter crashes in conjunction with a rescue attempts.

3. Goals:

a. Recognize the importance of search and rescue activities within the South San Juan Wilderness.

b. Provide accurate and timely information to visitors about backcountry travel conditions and needed safety items.

c. Emphasize a "light-handed" approach to search and rescue operations.

4. Management Goals:

   a. Develop a cooperative search and rescue plan by 1993 with the County Sheriffs which includes: (a) being notified of each incident; (b) when authorization of motorized use will be approved by the respective Forest Supervisors; (c) responsibilities of the County Sheriffs and Forest Service personnel in event of an emergency and (d) providing reports associated with each incident.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

1. Forest Plan Direction

   a. Pristine Setting

      Do not construct or reconstruct trails.

   b. Primitive Setting

      Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet objectives of the Wilderness transportation system. Trail density will be less than one mile per square mile.

      Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists.

      Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use.

      Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts.

      Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points.

   c. Semi-Primitive Setting

      Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet the objectives of the Wilderness transportation system. Trail density will not exceed two miles per square mile.

      Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists.

      Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use.

      Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts.

      Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points.

2. Current Situation:

   The South San Juan Wilderness has 164 miles of developed Forest Service system trails. One hundred and four miles of trail is situated on the Conejos Peak District and 64 miles of trail is situated on the Pagosa District. A 35-mile segment of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail is within the South San Juan Wilderness. Trail maintenance occurs on an annual basis on the major trails within the South San Juan to clear blowdown, rocks, and clean out water bars. Heavy reconstruction work has occurred on those trails having extensive erosion

trails having extensive erosion problems or safety problems in association with bogs.

Many of the major trails accessing the South San Juan Wilderness have trail signs with additional signs at trail junctions. In high-elevation areas where there is open country and no existing trail tread, trail cairns have been constructed. Wilderness boundary signs have been installed at most major access points within the South San Juan Wilderness.

The following is an overview of exterior routes to the Wilderness and existing trailheads.

Conejos Peak Ranger District

The greatest threat to achieving the desired future condition within the South San Juan Wilderness is the upgrading of the existing transportation system accessing the Wilderness. In most cases, existing trailheads are served by Forest Development Roads.

The current system of roads accessing the Wilderness trailheads are narrow, winding and relatively rough roads. This helps to limit the number of people entering the Wilderness and is the only natural limiter of Wilderness use. Widening, straightening, surface improvements to the road system accessing the Wilderness are undesirable as is increasing the size of trailheads. The District is adequately served by exterior road systems, trailheads and exterior trails.

There are certain needs required at existing trailheads to assure resource protection and public sanitation. These are:

Three Forks Trailhead/Access Road

This facility exists at its full, desirable development level. The access road (FDR 245) should not be improved and the size of the parking area should not be increased, at any time, beyond its current level. Improvements needed are: (a) signing to improve traffic circulation (parking area only); (b) informational signing; (c) Wilderness boundary signs; and (d) toilet replacement.

Adams Fork Trailhead

The functioning of this access point needs to be improved. Suitable parking for horse trailers exists one-quarter mile to the south of the trailhead at an area historically used for dispersed camping. Signing, parking and obliteration of a small section of trail near the parking area needs to be completed.

Tobacco Lake Trailhead/Access Road

This is an undeveloped trailhead with Forest Development Road access. This facility should remain in current condition.

Bear Lake Trailhead/Access Road

This is an undeveloped trailhead with Forest Development Road access. This facility should remain in current condition.

South Fork Trailhead

Improvements (parking for cars, horse trailers, signing, bulletin boards, toilet) planned for this facility will bring it to its full, desirable development level. No additional improvements

beyond maintenance is required.

Ruybalid Trailhead

This is an unimproved access point. Parking for five vehicles and horse trailers and signing is needed.

Forest Development Road 250

This road serves numerous trailhead access points. Planned improvements to FDR 250 constitute a likely threat to the South San Juan Wilderness by increasing the volume of traffic to the existing trailheads. Impacts to the Wilderness must be considered in all improvement plans for this road.

Elk Creek Trailhead

This existing facility is at its full, desirable development level. The access road and the size of the trailhead parking area should not be improved, at any time, beyond its current levels. Improvements needed are: (a) replacement of existing toilet; (b) informational signing; (c) signing to improve traffic circulation.

Duck Lake Trailhead/Trail

The functioning of this access point needs to be improved without increasing its capacity. Currently signing is unclear, access to the parking area is rough, and the access trail to the Wilderness boundary needs to be defined better. Facility improvements needed are parking for five vehicles and horse trailers and signing. The toilet facility at the Elk Creek trailhead can serve this trailhead.

Red Lake Trailhead/Access Road

This historic trailhead is undeveloped and serves as a destination dispersed recreation area. The historic trailhead has been made obsolete by construction of a new road and excavation for a new trailhead closer to the Wilderness boundary. An analysis has been completed and the preferred alternative is to fully develop a trailhead including toilet, signing, and short connector trail at the new trailhead location and construct a toilet at the historic trailhead area to serve dispersed recreationists. Maintenance of the existing trail would continue.

Rio de los Pinos Trailhead

This is an access point without a trailhead. There is a historic access route and its continued use is appropriate. A decision is needed to determine the location and degree of trailhead development. The decision will be made a part of the Cumbres Area Analysis and Evaluation (Timber Analysis).

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail

This trail is in place. Development of a trailhead at Cumbres Pass will be addressed under a separate analysis.

Pagosa Ranger District

There are five existing trailheads on the District which are accessible by Forest Development Roads and require extensive driving to reach them. The roads are rough, narrow, and winding

in places. The length of time to reach the trailheads and rough roads are factors limiting wilderness use.

The trailheads on the Districts are at Blanco River, Fish Lake, Little Blanco, Coal Creek (two trailheads) and Quartz Creek (two trailheads). Some of these trailheads need upgrading to include capacity for five vehicles and horse trailers.

3. Goals:

   a. Manage existing trails, signs and trailheads to standards outlined in the Forest Plan direction for each wilderness setting.

   b. Maintain and reconstruct trails as needed to meet appropriate standards.

   c. Promote alternative trails outside Wilderness which provide similar experiences.

   d. Maintain signs as needed to meet appropriate standards.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Develop a sign plan for the South San Juan Wilderness by 1996. The plan should include: type (trailhead, informational, boundary, trail); location identified on map; condition (replace, maintain, none in place-needed); whether the signs meet Forest Plan direction; and maintenance or replacement schedule with associated costs.

   b. Develop a trail log inventory for all system trails in the South San Juan Wilderness by 1996. The log should include: mileage, trail condition by trail segment, work needed by trail segment, annual maintenance needed, priority of trail work, and schedule of work with associated costs.

   c. Maintain existing trails, signs, and trailheads to appropriate standards.

RECREATION MANAGEMENT

1. Forest Plan Direction

   Wilderness Area Direction

   a. Provide opportunities for human isolation, solitude, self-reliance, and challenge while traveling cross-country and on system trails.

   b. Utilize a permit system to manage use levels and patterns during the summer use period based upon the following criteria:

      1. When unacceptable use levels, as specified in each prescription, are exceeded during 20 percent of the summer use season, or

      2. When acceptable capacities, as specified in the individual prescriptions, in primitive and pristine management areas are exceeded on 10 percent or more of the days during the summer-use season.

      3. Apply a permit system to the entire wilderness, not just impacted portions of the wilderness.

c. Maximum party-size limit for the summer use period is 25 people and/or recreational stock. Party size limits less than 25 people and/or recreational stock will be established where biological and resource capability cannot support that level of use. Party sizes established for protection of biophysical resources will set limits for both people and recreational stock. Parties larger than established limits may be allowed under permit on a case-by-case basis when compatible with other Wilderness management objectives.

d. Prohibit recreational stock along lakeshores and streambanks except for watering and through travel.

e. Control overnight grazing of recreational stock in alpine and krummholz ecosystems, in accordance with utilization standards outlined in the Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21) and FSM 2320.3.

Pristine Setting

a. Provide opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation featuring solitude and to travel cross-country in an environment where success or failure is directly dependent on ability, knowledge, and initiative.

b. Manage use to provide very infrequent contact with other groups or individuals. Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than two other parties per day.

c. Prohibit open fires when occurrence of fire-rings exceed Frissell Class 1 site conditions on 10 percent or more of the known campsites within the management area. Provide Frissell Condition Class 1 and 2 campsites only.

Primitive Setting

a. Emphasize primitive recreation opportunities requiring a high degree of isolation, solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling cross-country or on system trails.

b. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when:
   a) use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrients and erosion protection, or
   b) visual resource objective of preservation for the area likely could not be met.

c. Manage use to provide a low incidence of contact with other groups or individuals and to prevent unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources. Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 6 other parties per day.

d. Manage sites to provide opportunity for moderate to high degree of solitude. Use a minimum site spacing of 500 feet. Provide campsites in Frissell Condition Classes 1 and 2 only. Capacity - campsites occupied at lakes - less than 5 acres - 2 sites; 5-25 acres - 3 sites and greater than 25 acres - 4 sites. Number of campsites per mile of stream and trails - open areas - 2 sites per mile; forested areas - 4 sites/mile.

Semi-Primitive Setting

a. Provide semi-primitive recreation opportunities requiring predominately unmodified natural settings, with a moderate degree of challenge and risk while traveling cross-country or on trails.

b. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when:

a) use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrients and erosion protection, or
b) visual resource objective of retention for the area likely could not be met.

c. Permit undesignated sites in Frissell Condition Class 1 through 3 where unrestricted camping is permitted.

d. Manage summer use to allow moderate to high contact with other groups and individuals. Minimum site spacing of 300 feet. Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are 20 or less other parties per day. Capacity - campsites occupied at lakes - less than 5 acres - 2 sites; 5-25 acres - 3 sites and greater than 25 acres - 4 sites. Number of campsites per mile of stream and trails - open areas - 3 sites per mile; forested areas - 6 sites per mile.

Reference Appendix E for Frissell Condition Class Definitions.

2. Current Situation:

As outlined in the vegetation section, a campsite inventory was conducted in the South San Juan Wilderness during the field seasons of 1986 and 1987. A majority of the campsites inventoried were located around lakes or within frequently traveled drainages. This inventory did not address party size or number of visitors encountered throughout the use season.

Trail register boxes and registration cards use to be provided at major Wilderness access points. The trail registration boxes and cards are no longer in use for the South San Juan Wilderness.

Minimal information is available regarding Wilderness visitor profiles, length of stay, user type and size of groups visiting the South San Juan Wilderness.

Because of limited wilderness budgets and other District priorities, wilderness management efforts have concentrated on: collecting trash around heavily used lakes, monitoring to a limited degree inventoried campsites, needed trail maintenance work, and visitor contacts to promote low-impact camping.

Visitor use reported in the South San Juan Wilderness for the FY91 season was 35,000 Recreation Visitor Days.

3. Goals:

a. Continue a monitoring program to assess impacts and changes to the vegetative resource and social conditions.

b. Determine if Forest Plan standards are being met for each wilderness setting.

c. Manage for opportunities for solitude and protection of Wilderness resources.

d. Emphasize, promote and enforce minimum impact techniques for all wilderness users.

e. Manage for quality recreation experiences.

4. Management Actions:

a. Reference management action items a and b in the Vegetative Resource section.

b. By 1994, establish a monitoring system to account for social encounters associated with each wilderness setting. Begin implementing the monitoring system in 1995. Compare the collected information with the standards for each wilderness setting to see if use exceeds the standards. If use is within the standard guidelines, monitor use every two years. If use exceeds the standards, take those management steps necessary to comply with the standards. Monitor use every two years after management steps have been implemented.

c. By 1994, establish a monitoring system to collect better use trends, patterns, and visitor profiles. Begin implementing in 1995.

d. Continue the party size limit for guided and unguided visitors to the South San Juan Wilderness.

e. By 1994, coordinate and develop displays for District offices and major Wilderness entry trailheads. Prepare educational information for presentation to all community schools, civic organizations, user groups, and organizations which promote low-impact camping techniques and proper horse use and camping techniques.

f. Provide training to Wilderness Rangers and trail crews regarding low-impact camping techniques and proper horse use techniques annually.

OUTFITTERS

1. Forest Plan Direction

a. Maximum party size limit for the summer use period is 25 people and/or recreation stock. Party sizes established for protection of biophysical resources will set limits for both people and recreational stock. Parties larger than established limits may be allowed under permit on a case-by-case basis when compatible with other wilderness management objectives.

b. Control overnight grazing of recreational stock in alpine and krummholz ecosystems in accordance with Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21) and FSM 2320.3.

c. Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level of use capacities.

d. Prohibit recreational stock along lake shores and streambanks except for watering and through travel.

2. Current Situation:

Both summer recreational outfitters and fall hunting outfitters currently operate in the South San Juan Wilderness. The Conejos Peak District has fourteen outfitters under special-use permit and the Pagosa District has eight outfitters under special-use permit.

The Rio Grande National Forest has not set a capacity limit on outfitter-guide use but will be doing an analysis beginning in the spring of 1992 to determine capacities within the South San Juan Wilderness. The Pagosa District, San Juan National Forest has established an outfitter-guide capacity of 750 service days. Presently the service-day limit has not been reached.

3. Goals:

   a. Manage outfitter-guide operations within the South San Juan Wilderness to protect wilderness resources.

   b. Establish use capacities for outfitter-guides.

   c. Assess outfitter actual use to determine if they exceed the Forest Plan standards for wilderness settings.

   d. Emphasize, promote and train outfitter-guides to adopt leave no trace camping techniques and proper horse use techniques.

   e. Ensure outfitters provide a quality recreation experience to their clients.

4. Management Actions:

   a. Monitor outfitter-guide operations annually.

   b. Applications for summer and fall outfitter-guide permits will not be accepted until a capacity determination has been approved on the Rio Grande National Forest.

   c. All outfitter-guide special-use permits which are temporary will not be converted to priority use until a decision on capacity determination has been made on the Rio Grande National Forest. If outfitter performance evaluations are acceptable, reissue temporary permits. If outfitter performance evaluations are probationary or unacceptable, take appropriate action.

   d. In 1992, monitor outfitter-guide actual use figures and compare use to the Forest Plan standards for each wilderness setting to determine if use is in compliance with the standards. If use is within the standard guidelines, monitor annually. If use exceeds the standards, take appropriate management steps with the special use permit and operating plans to comply with Forest Plan standards. Monitor annually.

   e. In 1992, monitor annually on a random basis outfitter-guide accounting records.

   f. In 1994, train outfitter-guides concerning low-impact camping techniques and proper horse use techniques. Have outfitters educate their clients to "minimum land use ethics" and low impact camping techniques and proper horse use techniques. Do additional training every 3 years.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. Direction:

   a. Provide information for the purpose of informing the public about wilderness ethics and philosophy and educating the public about wilderness.

2. Current Situation:

   Wilderness information and education is mainly done by District personnel and receptionists providing information to people writing or visiting the District offices; Wilderness Managers contacts with civic organizations or providing local Chambers of Commerce with wilderness information; wilderness information and regulations on trailhead bulletin boards and Wilderness Rangers and trail crews contact with visitors when in the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Inform and educate all wilderness users to promote and improve understanding of the wilderness ethics and management.

   b. Insure the two Districts coordinate their educational efforts to provide consistent information and educational material to all wilderness users.

   c. Provide a range of wilderness information (wilderness map, displays, wilderness ethics, No Trace Camping, proper horse techniques, wilderness regulations) to educate visitors about the South San Juan Wilderness.

   d. Insure Wilderness information is provided in Spanish.

4. Management Actions:

   a. By 1994, Conejos Peak and Pagosa wilderness personnel coordinate and develop displays and informational materials for District offices and major wilderness entry trailheads and educational information for presentation to all schools, civic groups, user groups and organizations which promote wilderness ethics, low-impact camping techniques, and proper horse use techniques. Begin implementing coordinated, consistent wilderness information in 1995.

   b. By 1993, develop a South San Juan map which includes wilderness ethics and safety information. Have maps ready for sale in 1994.

   c. By 1994, develop pocket-size South San Juan Wilderness information cards.

   d. Provide outfitter-guide wilderness training regarding low-impact camping techniques and proper horse use techniques.

   e. By 1995, develop and provide wilderness information in Spanish.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Direction:

   a. Emphasize a "single-unit management" approach for the South San Juan Wilderness.

2. Current Situation:

   Limited discussions and meetings between the Conejos Peak and Pagosa Ranger Districts have taken place regarding the administration of the South San Juan Wilderness. Implementation of the South San Juan Implementation Schedule should increase the Districts need to coordinate and communicate regarding consistent management and administration of the South San Juan Wilderness.

3. Goals:

   a. Work to attain a "single-unit management" approach for the South San Juan Wilderness.

   b. Ensure Districts coordinate, exchange ideas, review and update management action items outlined within this Implementation Schedule.

c. Encourage and seek public involvement with the management of the South San Juan Wilderness.

4. Management Actions:

a. Schedule and conduct annual coordination meetings between the two Districts. Spring meetings -- review proposed program of work items, joint project(s) sharing, problem areas, management emphasis items. Fall meetings -- review summer work and management emphasis items, use trends or patterns, review joint project(s) sharing (items which may need improving), consider a tentative program of work for upcoming year.

b. Annually, incorporate management action item costs into the Districts' budget process.

c. Encourage and promote public involvement with the monitoring of the biological and physical resources and management of the South San Juan Wilderness.

d. Hold annual training sessions for wilderness rangers, trail crews, volunteers and seasonals working in the South San Juan Wilderness. Sessions should include: Wilderness Act and purpose for wilderness, techniques for low-impact camping and proper horse use, how to make contacts with visitors, safety considerations and items, use of radios, law enforcement emphasis, search and rescue program, the need for monitoring, and the South San Juan Wilderness Implementation Schedule.

IX. Action Plan

Reference Schedule of Action Items placed in the front of the Implementation Schedule.

Reference Appendix H - Action Item Cost Summary

APPENDIX

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A

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RECEIVED
FEB 25 '81
LANDS

Public Law 96-560
96th Congress

An Act

To designate certain National Forest System lands in the States of Colorado, South Dakota, Missouri, South Carolina, and Louisiana for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

Dec. 22, 1980
[H.R. 5487]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

National Forest System lands, designations.

TITLE I

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND POLICY

SEC. 101. (a) The Congress finds that—

(1) many areas of undeveloped National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado possess outstanding natural characteristics which give them high values as wilderness and will, if properly preserved, contribute as an enduring resource of wilderness for the benefit of the American people;

(2) the Department of Agriculture's second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) of National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado and the related congressional review of such lands have identified areas which, on the basis of their landform, ecosystem, associated wildlife, and location, will help to fulfill the National Forest System's share of a quality National Wilderness Preservation System; and

(3) the Department of Agriculture's second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation of National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado and the related congressional review of such lands have also identified areas which do not possess outstanding wilderness attributes or which possess outstanding energy, mineral, timber, grazing, dispersed recreation and other values and which should not now be designated as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System but should be available for nonwilderness multiple uses under the land management planning process and other applicable laws.

(b) The purposes of this title are to—

(1) designate certain National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, in order to promote, perpetuate, and preserve the wilderness character of the land, protect watersheds and wildlife habitat, preserve scenic and historic resources, and promote scientific research, primitive recreation, solitude, physical and mental challenge, and inspiration for the benefit of all the American people, to a greater extent than is possible in the absence of wilderness designation; and

(2) insure that certain other National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado be available for nonwilderness multiple uses.

SEC. 102. (a) In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act, the following lands in the State of Colorado are hereby designated as

16 USC 1131 note.

wilderness and, therefore, as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

C 1132 (1) certain lands in the Uncompahgre National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately ninety-seven thousand seven hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Big Blue Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Big Blue Wilderness;

C 1132 (2) certain lands in the Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately nine thousand four hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Cache La Poudre Wilderness—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which shall be known as the Cache La Poudre Wilderness;

C 1132 (3) certain lands in the Gunnison, San Isabel, and White River National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and fifty-nine thousand nine hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Collegiate Peaks Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness;

C 1132 (4) certain lands in the Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixty-seven thousand five hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Comanche Peak Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Comanche Peak Wilderness;

C 1132 (5) certain lands in the San Isabel and White River National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and twenty-six thousand acreas, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Holy Cross Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Holy Cross Wilderness: *Provided,* That no right, or claim of right, to the diversion and use of existing conditional water rights for the Homestake Water Development project by the cities of Aurora and Colorado Springs shall be prejudiced, expanded, diminished, altered, or affected by this Act. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to expand, abate, impair, impede, or interfere with the construction, maintenance or repair of said project, nor the operation thereof, or any exchange or modification of the same agreed to by the cities and the United States, acting through any appropriate agency thereof;

(6) certain lands in the Rio Grande and Gunnison National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixty thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "La Garita Additions—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the La Garita

C 1131 Wilderness as designated by Public Law 88-577;

C 1132 (7) certain lands in the San Juan and Uncompahgre National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately forty thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Lizard Head Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Lizard Head Wilderness;

C 1132 (8) certain lands in the Pike National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and six thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Lost Creek Wilderness—Proposed", dated June 1980, and which shall be known as the Lost Creek Wilderness;

(9) certain lands in the Gunnison and White River National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and three thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Maroon Bells—Snowmass Additions—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness as designated by Public Law 88-577; 16 USC 1131 note.

(10) certain lands in the Arapaho and Pike National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately seventy-three thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Mount Evans Wilderness—Proposed", dated June 1980, and which shall be known as the Mount Evans Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(11) certain lands in the San Isabel National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately twenty-six thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Mount Massive Wilderness—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which shall be known as the Mount Massive Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(12) certain lands in the Uncompahgre National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixteen thousand two hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Mount Sneffels Wilderness—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which shall be known as the Mount Sneffels Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(13) certain lands in the Routt National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixty-eight thousand five hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Mount Zirkel Wilderness Additions—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness as designated by Public Law 88-577; 16 USC 1131 note.

(14) certain lands in the Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately nine thousand nine hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Neota Wilderness Proposal", dated October 1979, and which shall be known as the Neota Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(15) certain lands in the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately fourteen thousand one hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Never Summer Wilderness—Proposed", dated September 1980, and which shall be known as the Never Summer Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(16) certain lands in the Gunnison and White River National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixty-eight thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Raggeds Wilderness—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which shall be known as the Raggeds Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(17) certain lands in the Roosevelt and Routt National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately forty-eight thousand nine hundred and thirty acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Mount Rawah Wilderness Additions—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the Rawah Wilderness as designated by Public Law 88-577: *Provided,* That the Secretary shall permit motorized access and the use of motorized equipment used for the periodic maintenance and repair of the McGuire Water Transmission Line ditch; 16 USC 1131 note.

(18) certain lands in the San Juan National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and thirty thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "South San Juan Wilderness—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which shall be known as the South San Juan Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(19) certain lands in the Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests, Colorado, which comprise approximately sixty-six thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Weminuche

Wilderness Additions—Proposed", dated October 1979, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the Weminuche Wilderness as designated by Public Law 93-632; and

(20) certain lands in the Gunnison National Forest, Colorado, which comprise approximately one hundred and thirty-three thousand acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "West Elk Wilderness Additions—Proposed", dated November 1980, and which are hereby incorporated in and shall be deemed to be a part of the West Elk Wilderness as designated by Public Law 88-577.

(b) The previous classifications of the Uncompahgre Primitive Area and the Wilson Mountains Primitive Area are hereby abolished.

SEC. 103. In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act, the following lands are hereby designated as wilderness and, therefore, as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System: certain lands in the Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota, which comprise approximately ten thousand seven hundred acres, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Black Elk Wilderness—Proposed", dated October 1979, and shall be known as the Black Elk Wilderness: *Provided,* That the provisions of the Act establishing the Custer State Park Sanctuary (41 Stat. 986) and the later named Norbeck Wildlife Preserve (63 Stat. 708) shall also apply to the Black Elk Wilderness to the extent they are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Wilderness Act.

SEC. 104. (a) As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file the maps referred to in this title and legal descriptions of each wilderness area designated by this title with the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, and each such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal descriptions and maps may be made. Each such map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

(b) Subject to valid existing rights, each wilderness area designated by this title shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 892) governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that, with respect to any area designated in this Act, any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act of 1964 shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

SEC. 105. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall review and within three years after the date of enactment of this Act, shall report to the President and the Congress in accordance with subsections 3(c) and 3(d) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 892), his recommendations on the suitability or unsuitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System of the following lands:

(1) the Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately fifty-six thousand nine hundred acres in the San Isabel National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980;

(2) the Fossil Ridge Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately fifty-four thousand seven hundred acres in the Gunnison National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Fossil Ridge Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated December 1979;

(3) the Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately twenty-two thousand three hundred acres in the San Isabel National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Greenhorn Mountain Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980;

(4) the South San Juan Wilderness Expansion Study Area, consisting of approximately thirty-two thousand eight hundred acres in the San Juan National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Montezuma Peak-V Rock Trail Wilderness Study Area", dated June 1980;

(5) the Piedra Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately forty-one thousand five hundred acres in the San Juan National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Piedra Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980;

(6) the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately two hundred and twenty-one thousand acres in the Rio Grande and San Isabel National Forests, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Sangre de Cristo Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980;

(7) the Spanish Peaks Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately nineteen thousand six hundred acres in the San Isabel National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Spanish Peaks Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980;

(8) the Vasquez Peak Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately twelve thousand eight hundred acres in the Arapaho National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Vasquez Peak Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated September 1980; and

(9) the West Needle Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately fifteen thousand eight hundred acres in the San Juan National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "West Needle Wilderness Study Area Proposal", dated June 1980.

Review and report to President and Congress.

(b) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall review jointly the Wheeler Geologic Study Area consisting of approximately fourteen thousand acres in the Gunnison National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Wheeler Geologic Study Area Proposal", dated November 1980, and within three years following the date of enactment of this Act shall report to the President and to Congress their recommendations for management of the lands in such study area. In making such review and report, such Secretaries shall consider—

(1) the natural, historical, cultural, scenic, economic, educational, scientific, energy, mineral, and geologic values of the study area;

(2) the management and protection of fragile geologic resources within the area;

(3) possible land management options or designations including national park, national monument, or national recreation area designation; addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System; special administrative designations; and management under the general laws and regulations applicable to the National Forest System;

(4) the effect of possible land managment options on consumers, national security, and national, State and local economies,

including timber harvest, tourism, grazing, energy, water, mineral, and other commercial activities;

(5) the need for additional mineral exploration in such area; and

(6) the suitability and desirability of permanent or temporary road or other mechanized access into the study area, with special attention to access by the elderly and the handicapped.

(c) Subject to valid existing rights, the study areas designated by subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall, until Congress determines otherwise, be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture so as to maintain their presently existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System: *Provided,* That with respect to grazing of livestock and oil, gas, or mineral exploration and development activities, such study areas shall be administered according to the laws generally applicable to the National Forest System.

C 1132 SEC. 106. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall review and within three years after the date of enactment of this Act, shall report to the President and the Congress in accordance with subsections 3(c) and C 1132. 3(d) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 892), his recommendations on the suitability or unsuitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System of the following area:

(1) the Oh-Be-Joyful Wilderness Study Area, consisting of approximately five thousand five hundred acres in the Gunnison National Forest, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Oh-Be-Joyful Wilderness Study Area—Proposed", dated November 1980.

(b) Subject to valid existing rights, the Oh-Be-Joyful Wilderness Study Area shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture so as to maintain its presently existing wilderness character and potential for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System: *Provided,* That such management requirement shall not extend beyond a period of two years from the date of submission to Congress of the President's recommendation that such area be designated as wilderness, or beyond the date of submission to Congress of the President's recommendation that such area not be designated as wilderness: *Provided further,* That, with respect to oil, gas and mineral exploration and development operations in such study area, SC 1131 the terms of the Wilderness Act of 1964 shall apply.

SEC. 107. (a) The Congress finds that—

(1) the Department of Agriculture has completed the second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation program (RARE II); and

(2) the Congress has made its own review and examination of National Forest System roadless areas in the State of Colorado and of the environmental impacts associated with alternative allocations of such areas.

(b) On the basis of such review, the Congress hereby determines and directs that—

(1) without passing on the question of the legal and factual sufficiency of the RARE II Final Environmental Statement (dated January 1979) with respect to National Forest System lands in States other than Colorado, such statement shall not be subject to judicial review with respect to National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado;

(2) with respect to the National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado which were reviewed by the Department of Agriculture in the second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II), except those lands remaining in further planning

upon enactment of this Act, areas listed in sections 105 and 106 of this Act, or previously congressional designated wilderness study areas, that review and evaluation shall be deemed for the purposes of the initial land management plans required for such lands by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 to be an adequate consideration of the suitability of such lands for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System and the Department of Agriculture shall not be required to review the wilderness option prior to the revision of the initial plans and in no case prior to the date established by law for completion of the initial planning cycle; 16 USC 1600 note. 16 USC 1600 note.

(3) areas in the State of Colorado reviewed in such Final Environmental Statement and not designated as wilderness or for study by Congress or remaining in further planning upon enactment of this Act need not be managed for the purpose of protecting their suitability for wilderness designation pending revision of the initial plans; and

(4) unless expressly authorized by Congress the Department of Agriculture shall not conduct any further statewide Roadless Area Review and Evaluation of National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado for the purpose of determining their suitability for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

SEC. 108. The Congress hereby declares that, without amending the Wilderness Act of 1964, with respect to livestock grazing in National Forest wilderness areas, the provisions of the Wilderness Act relating to grazing shall be interpreted and administered in accordance with the guidelines contained under the heading "Grazing in National Forest Wilderness" in the House Committee Report (H. Report 96-617) accompanying this Act. 16 USC 1133 note. 16 USC 1131 note.

SEC. 109. The Secretary of Agriculture is directed to review all policies, practices, and regulations of the Department of Agriculture regarding disease or insect outbreaks, forest fires, and the use of modern suppression methods and equipment in National Forest System components of the National Wilderness Preservation System in the State of Colorado, to insure that—

(a) such policies, practices, and regulations fully conform with and implement the intent of Congress regarding forest fire, disease and insect control, as such intent is expressed in the Wilderness Act and this Act; and

(b) policies, practices, and regulations are developed that will allow timely, and efficient fire, insect, and disease control, to provide, to the extent reasonably practicable, adequate protection of adjacent Federal, State, and private nonwilderness lands from forest fires and disease or insect infestations.

SEC. 110. Congress does not intend that designation of wilderness areas in the State of Colorado lead to the creation of protective perimeters of buffer zones around each wilderness area. The fact that nonwilderness activities or uses can be seen or heard from areas within the wilderness shall not, of itself, preclude such activities or uses up to the boundary of the wilderness area.

SEC. 111. (a) The boundaries of Rocky Mountain National Park, the Roosevelt National Forest, and the Arapaho National Forest are revised as generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Adjustments, Rocky Mountain National Park", numbered 121-80,047, dated October 1, 1979, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Director, National Park Service, 16 USC 192b-9.

Department of the Interior, and the Office of the Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture: *Provided,* That the area shown on such map as E-5 and known as the Twin Sisters area shall remain a part of the Rocky Mountain National Park. All lands added or tranferred by this Act to Rocky Mountain National Park, Roosevelt National Forest, and Arapaho National Forest shall be subject to the laws and regulations applicable to the appropriate National Park or National Forest. Lands within the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area as designated by Public Law 95-450 (92 Stat. 1099) that are transferred by this Act to Rocky Mountain National Park shall remain in the National Wilderness Preservation System. Lands within the Rocky Mountain National Park that are adjacent to the Indian Peaks Wilderness and that are transferred by this Act to the Roosevelt National Forest shall be incorporated in and become part of the Indian Peaks Wilderness.

SC 460jj

(b) The Secretary of the Interior, with respect to lands added or transfered by this Act to Rocky Mountain National Park, and the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to lands added or transferred by this Act to Roosevelt and Arapaho National Forests, may acquire lands and interests in such lands, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or by exchange. The Secretary of Agriculture, under the provisions of the Act of March 20, 1922 (42 Stat. 465), as amended, may accept on behalf of the United States title to any land in section 30, township 7 north, range 73 west, of the sixth principal meridian which lies within the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park as revised by this Act, in exchange for which the Secretary of the Interior, notwithstanding section 8(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Public Law 90-542, 82 Stat. 906), is authorized to issue patent to lands lying within the Cache La Poudre Wild and Scenic River study corridor. Upon completion of the exchange, the Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer to the administrative jurisdiction by the Secretary of the Interior the portion of such land lying within the boundary of the Rocky Mountain National Park as revised by this Act.

SC 485, 486.

SC 1279.

(c) The Federal lands within the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management and within the areas referred to as E-2 and GL-3 on the map referred to in subsection (a) shall be transferred to Rocky Mountain National Park without transfer of funds.

(d) If the city of Longmont, Colorado, notifies the Secretary of the Interior that lands within the area referred to as E-8 on the map referred to in subsection (a) of this section that are owned by such city are necessary for the development of a reservoir, the Secretary shall by publication of a revised boundary description in the Federal Register revise the boundary of Rocky Mountain Park within such area to exclude the lands which are necessary for the development of the reservoir: *Provided,* That the authority of such Secretary to revise the boundary for this purpose shall expire on November 1, 1981; and the only lands which may be excluded are the approximately one hundred twenty-nine acres owned by such city.

(e) If after the completion of two complete fiscal years following the date of enactment of this Act the Secretary of the Interior has not purchased interests in the lands of approximately one thousand two hundred acres known as the Old McGregor Ranch located within the area referred to as E-2 on the map referred to in subsection (a), and the owner of such lands petitions the Secretary to exclude such lands from Rocky Mountain National Park, the Secretary shall by publication of a revised boundary description in the Federal Register return the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park in such area E-2 to the boundary as it existed before the enactment of this Act.

(f) The Secretary of the Interior shall convey, to the city of Grand Lake, Colorado, without compensation or consideration, the lands, not to exceed two acres, within the area referred to as GL-5 on the map referred to in subsection (a).

(g) The Secretary of the Interior may provide for the use of snowmobiles along the East Shore Trail of Shadow Mountain Lake if after study the Secretary determines such use will not result in any significant adverse impact upon wildlife.

TITLE II

SEC. 201. In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act, the following lands are hereby designated as wilderness, and therefore, as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System—

(a) certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight thousand five hundred and thirty acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Bell Mountain Wilderness—Proposed", dated February 1980, and shall be known as the Bell Mountain Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(b) certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately three thousand nine hundred and twenty acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Rockpile Mountain Wilderness—Proposed", dated February 1980, and shall be known as the Rockpile Mountain Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(c) certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately eight thousand four hundred acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Piney Creek Wilderness—Proposed", dated February 1980, and shall be known as the Piney Creek Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(d) certain lands in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, which comprise approximately six thousand eight hundred acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Devils Backbone Wilderness—Proposed", dated February 1980, and shall be known as the Devils Backbone Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(e) certain lands in the Francis Marion National Forest, South Carolina, which comprise approximately five thousand one hundred acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Wambaw Swamp Wilderness—Proposed", dated May 1980, and shall be known as the Wambaw Swamp Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(f) certain lands in the Francis Marion National Forest, South Carolina, which comprise approximately one thousand nine hundred and eighty acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Hell Hole Bay Wilderness—Proposed", dated May 1980, and shall be known as the Hell Hole Bay Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(g) certain lands in the Francis Marion National Forest, South Carolina, which comprise approximately five thousand acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Little Wambaw Swamp Wilderness—Proposed", dated May 1980, and shall be known as the Wambaw Swamp Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(h) certain lands in the Francis Marion National Forest, South Carolina, which comprise approximately one thousand six hundred and forty acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Wambaw Creek Wilderness—Proposed", dated May 1980, and shall be known as the Wambaw Creek Wilderness; 16 USC 1132 note.

(i) certain lands in the Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana, which comprise approximately eight thousand seven hundred 16 USC 1132 note.

acres, are generally depicted on a map entitled "Kisatchie Hills Wilderness—Proposed", dated May 1980, and shall be known as the Kisatchie Hills Wilderness.

MAPS AND DESCRIPTIONS

SEC. 202. As soon as practicable after the provisions of this Act take effect, the Secretary of Agriculture shall file maps and legal descriptions of each wilderness area designated by this title with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Energy and Natural Resources and Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the United States Senate, and each such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided, however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such legal descriptions and maps may be made. Each such map and legal description shall be on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Chief, United States Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

ADMINISTRATION OF WILDERNESS

SEC. 203. Subject to valid existing rights, each wilderness area designated by this title shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 892) governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness areas, except that, with respect to any area designated in this Act, any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act of 1964 shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

16 USC 1131

Approved December 22, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 96-617 (Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs) and No. 96-1521 (Comm. of Conference).
SENATE REPORT No. 96-914 (Comm. on Energy and Natrual Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:
Vol. 125 (1979): Dec. 10, considered and passed House.
Vol. 126 (1980): Sept. 25, considered and passed Senate, amended.
Dec. 3, House agreed to conference report.
Dec. 4, Senate agreed to conference report.

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MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15) Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	5. Manage resource activities and facilities in accordance with the Regional Acceptable Work Standards. (0391)	a. FSM 1310 R2 ID No. 1 7/22/82 (6194)
	1. Ensure that permitted private and public sector sites on Forest Service lands which are adjacent to, or provide an access point into, a wilderness complement wilderness management objectives. (0457)	
Wilderness Area Management (B02)	1. Do not provide interpretive facilities at cultural resources sites, nor restore or enhance cultural resources for recreation purposes. (0172)	
	2. Provide opportunities for human isolation, solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling cross-country and on system trails. (0191)	
	3. Utilize a permit system to manage use levels and patterns during the summer use period based upon the following criteria: a. When acceptable use levels, as specified in the individual prescriptions, are exceeded during 20 percent of the summer use season, or b. When acceptable capacities, as specified in the individual prescriptions, in primitive or pristine management areas are exceeded on 10 percent or more of the days during the summer use season. c. Apply a permit system to an entire wilderness, not just impacted portions of a wilderness. (0192)	
	4. Do not impose party-size limits during traditionally light-use seasons or during fall hunting seasons unless necessary to prevent unacceptable levels of change to the biological and physical resources. (0193)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)	5. Maximum party-size limit for the summer use period is 25 people and/or recreational stock. Party size limits less than 25 people and/or recreational stock will be established where biological and physical resource capability cannot support that level of use. Party sizes established for protection of biophysical resources will set limits for both people and recreational stock. Parties larger than established limits may be allowed under permit on a case-by-case basis when compatible with other wilderness management objectives. (0194)	
	6. Prohibit competitive contest events, group demonstrations, ceremonies, and other similar events. (0209)	
	7. Prohibit dogs, or require them to be physically controlled on a leash. Exceptions will be made for permittee's working dogs, and for hunting dogs while hunting during legal seasons. (0202)	
	8. Prohibit recreational stock along lake shores and streambanks except for watering and through-travel. (0204)	
	9. Require users camping overnight with recreational stock to carry cubed, palleted, or rolled feed and/or certified weed-free hay where grazing is prohibited. (0176)	
	10. Control overnight grazing of recreational stock in alpine and Krummholz ecosystems according to use standards in Management Activity D02, Forest Direction. (0206)	a. Base range condition on the standards in Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21). (6156) b. Allowable soil disturbance criteria: 20% maximum disturbance on ranges with good-excellent soil stability condition on 0-15% slopes. 15% maximum disturbance on ranges with fair soil stability conditions on slopes less than 15% and good

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)		or better soil stability conditions on slopes of 16-25% 10% maximum disturbance on ranges with fair soil stability conditions on slopes of 16-25%, and good soil stability conditions on slopes of 26-45%. (6280)
	11. Prohibit new range improvement structures other than corrals, fences or water developments essential to sustain current permitted numbers. (0221)	
	12. Implement revegetation only for rehabilitation of areas in less than "fair" range condition based upon their natural potential. Use only native species for revegetation. Implement only where natural vegetation possibilities are poor, and only where degradation was due to human activities. (0177)	a. Base range condition on the standards in Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21). (6156)
	13. Permit fish and wildlife research and management utilizing guidelines adopted by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (FSM 2323.3). (0179)	
	14. See Mining Law Compliance and Administration and Minerals Management Activities in Forest Direction for minerals direction. (0476)	
	15. Suppress man-caused wildfires. (0186)	
	16. Maintain fire-dependent ecosystems using prescribed fires ignited naturally. Reclaim areas disturbed as part of fire control activities to meet the visual quality objective of retention. (0187)	
	17. Protect air quality related values from adverse effects from air pollution. (0188)	a. See criteria and standards in FSM 2120. (6286)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)	18. Control natural insect or disease outbreaks in wilderness only when justified by predicted loss of resource values outside of wilderness. Conduct analysis in accordance with FSM 3430. (0190) 19. Control problem animals on a case-by-case basis in cooperation with other agencies (FSM 2610) using methods directed at the offending animal but which present the least risk to other wildlife, and/or visitors. (0180)	
Wildlife and Fish Resource Management (C01)	1. Where present, the following species are Management Indicator Species: -Deer; -Elk; and -All Federally-listed endangered or threatened plant and animal species. (0458) 2. In addition to the above, use indicator species that represent the following categories: a. Riparian area dependent species; b. Wetland dependent species; c. Species dependent on either climax plant communities or one seral stage of a plant community or communities (forested land and rangeland); d. Tree cavity-dependent species; e. Game fish; f. Unique habitats for which there are dependent species (cliff, talus, cave); g. Small game species; h. Species dependent on multi-storied tree stands by commercial forest cover type; and i. Species which have particular scientific, local, or national interest, and species needing special management to prevent Federal listing as threatened or endangered. (0459)	

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 8A

(Provides for pristine wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is for the protection and perpetuation of essentially pristine bio-physical conditions and a high degree of solitude for both wildlife and humans with no perceptible evidence of past human use.

All resource management activities are integrated in such a way that evidence of current human use, including permitted and recreation livestock, is not noticeable the following season, or so that natural biological processes are not adversely or artificially changed over time by human use.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	1. Design and implement management activities to maintain a pristine ecosystem. (0218)	a. The Adopted Visual Quality Objective (VQO) is Preservation. (6132)
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	1. Provide opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation featuring solitude and to travel cross-country in an environment where success or failure is directly dependent on ability, knowledge and initiative. (0223)	
	2. Emphasize recreation opportunities on the most primitive end of the recreation opportunity spectrum. Manage use to provide very infrequent contact with other groups or individuals. (0224)	a. Maximum use and capacity levels are: - Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 2 other parties per day. - Trail and area-wide use capacity: (1) Open lands, meadow and alpine: 0.001 to 0.002 PAOT per acre. (2) Forested lands and shrub lands: 0.003 to 0.007 PAOT per acre. - Reduce the above use levels where unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources are likely to occur. (6128)
	3. Limit specially permitted parties to not more than one per 2500 acres. (0226)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	4. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199)	
	5. Prohibit open fires when occurrence of fire-rings exceed Frissell class 1 site conditions on 10 percent or more of the known campsites within the management area. (0251)	a. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	1. Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208)	
Wildlife and Fish Resource Management (C01)	1. Manage human activity so that wildlife and plant species population dynamics and distribution occurs naturally. Prohibit fish stocking except for reintroduction of indigenous species or where stocking has been previously authorized and practiced. (0220)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	1. Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130) b. Limit utilization of forage to not more than 30 percent of current annual growth outside established allotments. (6342) c. Limit trampling of forage to not more than 40 percent of current annual herbaceous vegetation growth, outside established allotments.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Range Resource Management (D02)		(6344)
Special Use Management (Non-Recreation) (J01)	1. Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211)	
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	1. Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3)(xvii). (6159) b. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133)
Trail Construction and Reconstruction (L22)	1. Do not construct or reconstruct trails. (0228)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	1. Prohibit man-made structures and facilities. (0219)	

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 8B

(Provides for primitive wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is to provide for the protection and perpetuation of natural bio-physical conditions. On-site regulation of recreation use is minimal. Travel is cross country or by use of a low-density constructed trail system.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	1. Design and implement management activities so that the impact of man is not apparent and the area appears in a condition affected only by natural biotic succession. (0230)	a. The Adopted Visual Quality Objective (VQO) is Preservation. (6132)
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	1. Emphasize primitive recreation opportunities requiring a high degree of isolation, solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling cross-country or on system trails. (0231)	
	2. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199)	
	3. Manage use to provide a low incidence of contact with other groups or individuals and to prevent unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources. (0301)	a. Maximum use and capacity levels are: - Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 6 other parties per day. - Trail and area-wide use capacity: Use Level / Open Lands / Forest & Shrub Lands On Trails (PAOT/Mile): 0.5-1.0 / 2-3 (6372) b. Area-wide Capacity: (PAOT/Acre) Open Lands Alpine, Krummholz .002 Rock, Mtn. grass .005

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)		Forest & Shrub Lands Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir, Riparian areas, White Pine .01 Spruce/Fir, Lodge-pole Pine, Aspen .02 (6336)
		c. Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity on more than 10 percent of the days during summer and fall use season. (6374)
	4. Manage sites to provide opportunity for moderate to high degree of solitude. (0626)	a. Use a minimum site spacing of 500 feet. (6338)
		b. Occupied site guidelines: (Maximum number of sites occupied at one time.) Lakes <5 acres 2 5-25 acres 3 >25 acres 4 Depending on site suitability/ availability Streams and Trails Open areas 2 sites/mile Forested areas 4 sites/mile (6340)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	1. Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	1. Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08B

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Special Use Management (Non -Recreation) (J01)	1. Manage surface occupancy activities authorized prior to wilderness designation to reduce impact on wilderness values consistant with the intent of the occupancy authorization. (0210) 2. Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211)	
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	1. Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3) (xvii). (6159) b. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133)
Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	1. Locate and design required access roads within the management area for authorized activities to minimize the biophysical and visual impact, and to facilitate restoration. (0213)	a. Roads will not be authorized: - On slopes steeper than 60%; - In areas of high erosion hazard; - In areas of high geologic hazard; - In areas of low visual absorption capacity that are unlikely for successful restoration; - In areas which would adversely affect threatened and endangered plant and animal species. (6165)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	2. Convert roads not needed for authorized activities to trails, or if they are not needed as part of the transportation system, restore them to the established VQO. (0254)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) b. Schedule trail maintenance in accordance with Regional Acceptable Work Standards. (FSM 1910 R2 ID No. 1 7/22/82.) (6131)
	3. Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet objectives of the wilderness transportation system. (0255)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7709.12, FSM 2323.11c and 2323.61d w/R-2 Supplement. (6134) b. Trail density will be less than one mile per square mile. Trails are constructed and maintained for established capacity levels. (6161)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	4. Construct bridges to only the standard necessary to accommodate the specified class of user. Construct bridges only where no safe opportunity exists to cross a stream or gorge during periods of normal stream flow. A safety hazard is a physical condition of a trail which may cause injury, is unusual or unexpected, and not readily identifiable by the trail user. It is not a condition which is easily identifiable and normally encountered for the type or location of the trail involved. The following examples illustrate this distinction: A hazard is a rotten bridge decking or handrail. A stream crossing where no bridge is provided and the user would expect this on the type and location of the trail is not a hazard. A hazard is a stable-appearing loose rock in a constructed treadway where all other rocks are stable. A trail treadway made up of rocks in a near-natural position, many of which are loose, is not a hazard. A hazard is a perennial bog-hole on a horse trail. An intermittent bog-hole which will dry up by early summer or within a few days following a rain storm is not a hazard. A hazard is a section of trail treadway supported by rotten cribbing. A section of trail where the treadway is obviously slippery is not a hazard. A hazard is a marked ford with holes deeper than the normal channel. A deep ford with a consistent stream bed is not a hazard. (0214) 5. Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists. (0215) 6. Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use. (0216)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	7. Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts. (0249)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7109.11a and 11b. (6158)
	8. Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points. (0250)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	1. Prohibit construction of new administrative facilities or structures. In the event a substantial portion of the existing administrative facility and/or structure is destroyed, it will not be replaced. (0207)	

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 8C

(Provides for semi-primitive wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is to provide for the protection and perpetuation of essentially natural bio-physical conditions. Solitude and a low level of encounters with other users or evidence of past use is not an essential part of the social setting. Human travel is principally on system trails. Designated campsites are used and show evidence of repeated, but acceptable levels of use.

All resource management activities are integrated in such a way that current human use leaves only limited and site-specific evidence of their passing. Areas with evidence of unacceptable levels of past use are rehabilitated and the affected area restored. Range allotments with authorized permanent structures, and authorized mineral exploration activities requiring multi-year surface occupancy facilities may be present within the area. Scientific and other authorized practices utilizing non-motorized equipment, but requiring up to season-long occupancy are compatible.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	1. Manage for maximum retention of the natural landscape. Design and locate management activities to meet the Visual Quality Objective of Preservation in all areas except where specific surface occupancy is authorized by Wilderness legislation. In these areas, the Visual Quality Objective is Retention. (0173)	
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	1. Provide semi-primitive recreation opportunities requiring predominately unmodified natural settings, with a moderate to high degree of challenge and risk while traveling cross-country or on trails. (0237)	
	2. Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199)	
	3. Permit undesignated sites in Frissell condition class 1 through 3 where unrestricted camping is permitted. (0174)	
	4. Manage site use and occupancy to maintain sites within Frissell condition class 3 except for designated sites which may be class 4. Close and restore class 5 sites. (0175)	
	5. Manage summer use to allow moderate to high contact with other groups and individuals. (0752)	a. Areawide Capacity: (PAOT/Acre) Open lands Alpine, Krummholz .004 Rock, Mtn. grass .008 Forest and Shrub lands Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir, Riparian areas, White Pine .05 Spruce/fir, Lodgepole Pine, Aspen .08

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

CONTINUATION OF:
Dispersed
Recreation
Management
(A14 and 15)

(6126)

b. Maximum use and capacity levels are:

- Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 20 other parties per day.
- Trail capacity is displayed below:

Use Level	Open Lands	Forest & Shrub Lands
On Trails (PAOT/Mile)	2-3	9-11

(6346)

c. Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity on more than 20 percent of the days during the summer use season.
(6019)

6. Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity for more than 20 percent of the summer use season.
(0489)

7. Permits for parties larger than the established limit may be issued when their presence can be adequately screened from the sights and sounds of other parties in the area.
(0302)

8. Manage location of campsites to provide a moderate degree of solitude.
(0628)

a. Locate campsites at least 300' apart.
(6348)

b. Occupied Site Guidelines:
(Maximum number of sites occupied at one time.)
Lakes < 5 acres 2

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)		5-25 acres 3 >25 acres 4 Streams Open areas 3 sites/mile Forested areas 6 sites/mile (6350)
	9. Manage site use and occupancy to maintain sites within Frissell condition class 3 except for designated sites which may be class 4. (0636)	a. Allow sites to be occupied 20 days/summer season or to the level required to maintain at least a stable trend in site condition. (6352) b. Close and restore Frissell condition class 4 sites unless a designated site. Close and restore class 5 sites. (6354)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	1. Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	1. Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130)
Special Use Management (Non-Recreation) (J01)	1. Manage surface occupancy activities authorized prior to wilderness designation to reduce impact on wilderness values consistant with the intent of the occupancy authorization. (0210) 2. Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211)	

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08C

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	1. Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3)(xvii). (6159)
Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	1. Locate and design required access roads within the management area for authorized activities to minimize the biophysical and visual impact, and to facilitate restoration. (0213)	a. Roads will not be authorized: - On slopes steeper than 60%; - In areas of high erosion hazard; - In areas of high geologic hazard; - In areas of low visual absorption capacity that are unlikely for successful restoration; - In areas which would adversely affect threatened and endangered plant and animal species. (6165)
	2. Convert roads not needed for authorized activities to trails, or if they are not needed as part of the transportation system, restore them to the established VQO. (0254)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) b. Schedule trail maintenance in accordance with Regional Acceptable Work Standards. (FSM 1?10 R2 ID No. 1 7/22/82.) (6131)
	3. Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet objectives of the wilderness transportation system. (0255)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7709.12, FSM 2323.11c and 2323.61d w/R-2 Supplement. (6134)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)		b. Trail density will not exceed two miles per square mile. Trails are constructed and maintained for moderate to high levels of use as specified below. (6162)

4. Construct bridges to only the standard necessary to accommodate the specified class of user. Construct bridges only where no safe opportunity exists to cross a stream or gorge during periods of normal stream flow.

A safety hazard is a physical condition of a trail which may cause injury, is unusual or unexpected, and not readily identifiable by the trail user. It is not a condition which is easily identifiable and normally encountered for the type or location of the trail involved. The following examples illustrate this distinction:

A hazard is a rotten bridge decking or handrail. A stream crossing where no bridge is provided and the user would expect this on the type and location of the trail is not a hazard.

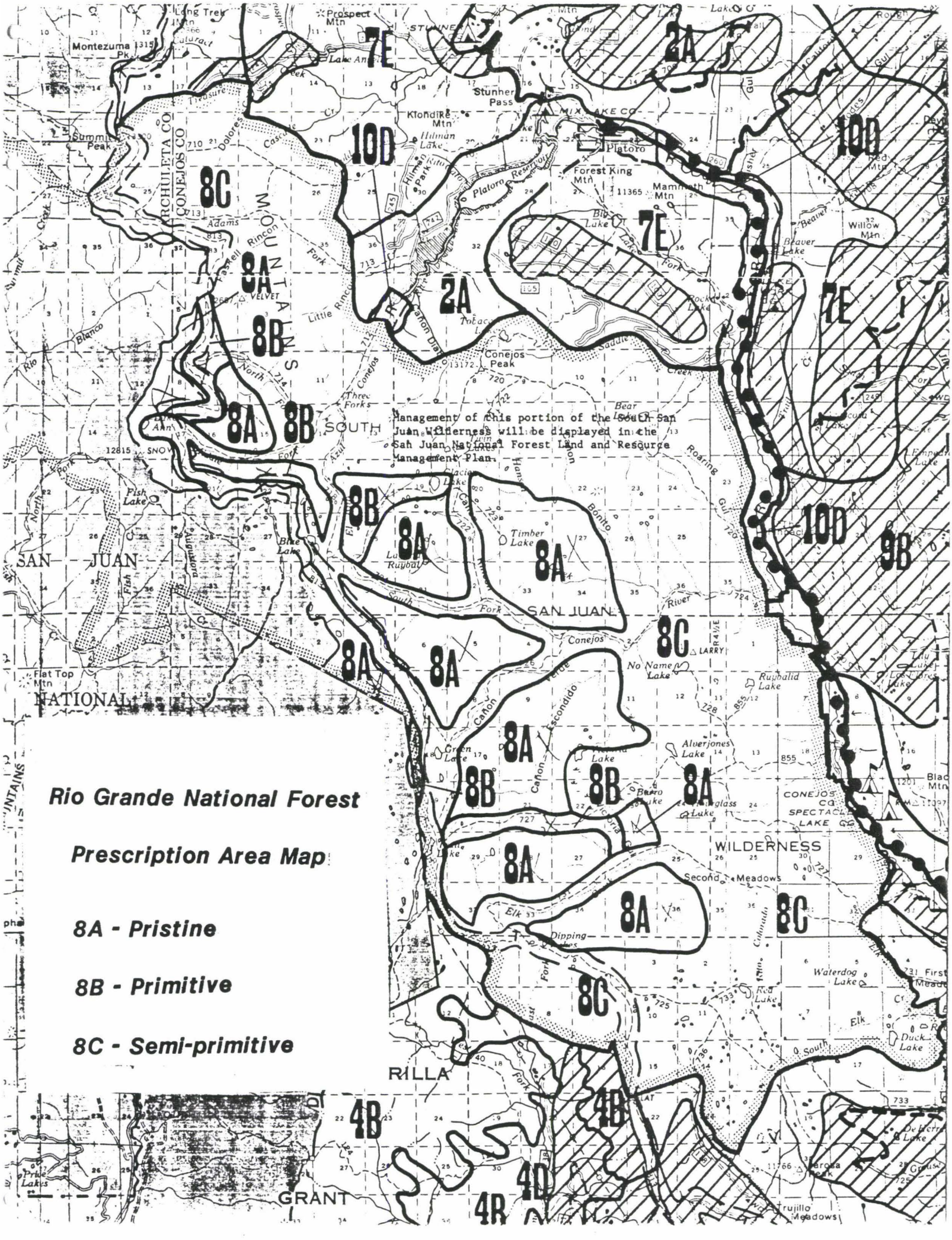
A hazard is a stable-appearing loose rock in a constructed treadway where all other rocks are stable. A trail treadway made up of rocks in a near-natural position, many of which are loose, is not a hazard.

A hazard is a perennial bog-hole on a horse trail. An intermittent bog-hole which will dry up by early summer or within a few days following a rain storm is not a hazard.

A hazard is a section of trail treadway supported by rotten cribbing. A section of trail where the treadway is obviously slippery is not a hazard.

A hazard is a marked ford with holes deeper than the normal channel. A deep ford with a consistent stream bed is not a hazard.
(0214)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	5. Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists. (0215)	
	6. Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use. (0216)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129)
	7. Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts. (0249)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7109.11a and 11b. (6158)
	8. Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points. (0250)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	1. Prohibit construction of new administrative facilities or structures. In the event a substantial portion of the existing administrative facility and/or structure is destroyed, it will not be replaced. (0207)	


Rio Grande National Forest
Prescription Area Map
8A - Pristine
8B - Primitive
8C - Semi-primitive
Management of this portion of the South San Juan Wilderness will be displayed in the San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan.
SAN JUAN NATIONAL
SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS
RIO GRANDE NATIONAL FOREST
CONEJOS CO
MINERAL CO
RIO GRANDE CO
HINSDALE CO
ARCHULETA CO
MONTEZUMA CO
LA PLATA CO
GRANT
RILLA
Montezuma Pk
Summitt Peak
Prospect Mtn
Lake Angel
Stunner Pass
Klondike Mtn
Hilman Lake
Platoro
Platoro Reservoir
Forest King Mtn
Mammoth Mtn
Big Lake
Beaver Lake
Willow Mtn
Rock Lake
Conejos Peak
Three Forks
Fish Lake
Blue Lake
Timber Lake
Ruby Lake
Ruybal Lake
No Name Lake
Alverjones Lake
Green Lake
Elk
Second Meadows
Waterdog Lake
Duck Lake
Flat Top Mtn
Prike Lakes
Trujillo Meadows
Deception Peak
Grouse
Black Mtn
Spectacle Lake
Long Trek
Mix Lake Co
Conejos Co
Rincon
Adams
Velvet
Little Rincon
Bonito
Roaring
Larry
Cañon Escondido
Dipping
Colorado
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Grouse
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Mtn
Spectacle
Lake

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	01 Ensure that permitted private and public sector sites on Forest Service lands which are adjacent to, or provide an access point into, a wilderness complement wilderness management objectives. (0457) (FDR)	
Wilderness Area Management (B02)	01 Do not provide interpretive facilities at cultural resources sites, nor restore or enhance cultural resources for recreation purposes. (0172) (FDR) 02 Provide opportunities for human isolation, solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling cross-country and on system trails. (0191) (FDR) 03 Utilize a permit system to manage use levels and patterns during the summer use period based upon the following criteria: a. When acceptable use levels, as specified in the individual prescriptions, are exceeded during 20 percent of the summer use season, or b. When acceptable capacities, as specified in the individual prescriptions, in primitive or pristine management areas are exceeded on 10 percent or more of the days during the summer use season. c. Apply a permit system to an entire wilderness, not just impacted portions of a wilderness. (0192) (FDR) 04 Do not impose party-size limits during traditionally light-use seasons or during fall hunting seasons unless necessary to prevent unacceptable levels of change to the biological and physical resources. (0193) (FDR)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)	05 Maximum party-size limit for the summer use period is 25 people and/or recreational stock. Party size limits less than 25 people and/or recreational stock will be established where biological and physical resource capability cannot support that level of use. Party sizes established for protection of biophysical resources will set limits for both people and recreational stock. Parties larger than established limits may be allowed under permit on a case-by-case basis when compatible with other wilderness management objectives. (0194) (FDR)	
	06 Prohibit competitive contest events, group demonstrations, ceremonies, and other similar events. (0209) (FDR)	
	07 Prohibit dogs, or require them to be physically controlled on a leash. Exceptions will be made for permittee's working dogs, and for hunting dogs while hunting during legal seasons. (0202) (FDR)	
	08 Prohibit recreational stock along lake shores and streambanks except for watering and through-travel. (0204) (FDR)	
	09 Require users camping overnight with recreational stock to carry cubed, pelleted, or rolled feed and/or certified weed-free hay where grazing is prohibited. (0176) (FDR)	
	10 Control overnight grazing of recreational stock in alpine and Krummholz ecosystems according to use standards in Management Activity D02, Forest Direction. (0206) (FDR)	a. Base range condition on the standards in Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21). (6156) (FDR) b. Allowable soil disturbance criteria: 20% maximum disturbance on ranges with good-excellent soil stability condition on 0-15% slopes. 15% maximum disturbance on ranges with fair soil stability conditions on slopes less than 15% and good

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)		or better soil stability conditions on slopes of 16-25% 10% maximum disturbance on ranges with fair soil stability conditions on slopes of 16-25%, and good soil stability conditions on slopes of 26-45%. (6280) (FDR)
	11 Prohibit new range improvement structures other than corrals, fences or water developments essential to sustain current permitted numbers. (0221) (FDR)	
	12 Implement revegetation only for rehabilitation of areas in less than "fair" range condition based upon their natural potential. Use only native species for revegetation. Implement only where natural vegetation possibilities are poor, and only where degradation was due to human activities. (0177) (FDR)	a. Base range condition on the standards in Range Analysis Handbook (FSH 2209.21). (6156) (FDR)
	13 Permit fish and wildlife research and management utilizing guidelines adopted by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (FSM 2323.3). (0179) (FDR)	
	14 See Mining Law Compliance and Administration and Minerals Management Activities in Forest Direction for minerals direction. (0476) (FDR)	
	15 Maintain or enhance the uniqueness and values of the wilderness resource using prescribed fires originating from unplanned ignitions except when wildfires threaten human life, lands of other ownership, downstream values, off-site resources, or escape from the wilderness. (1004SJ) (FDR)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)	16 Confine, contain, or control wildfires which threaten human life, lands of other ownership, off-site resources, downstream values, escape from the wilderness, or are not being managed as prescribed. (1005SJ) (FDR)	a. Suppression action will be taken on natural fires occurring in the Florida River Municipal Watershed Fire Management Unit to restrict fire size to less than 250 acres. (6801SJ) (FDR)
	17 Use methods and equipment in fire suppression which will least alter the landscape or disturb the land surface. Utilize natural barriers such as vegetation type changes and non-combustible land features to restrict wildfire spread. (1006SJ) (FDR)	
	18 Dozers may be used within wilderness when there is imminent threat to human life, property of other ownership, or to escape from the wilderness. Any other use of dozers for fire control must be approved by the Regional Forester. (1007SJ) (FDR)	
	19 Locate fire camps outside wilderness when practical. If located within wilderness, avoid the alpine zone. (1008SJ) (FDR)	
	20 Reclaim areas disturbed as part of fire control activities to meet the visual quality objective of retention. (1009SJ) (FDR)	
	21 Protect air quality related values from adverse effects from air pollution. (0188) (FDR)	a. See criteria and standards in FSM 2120. (6286) (FDR)
	22 Control natural insect or disease outbreaks in wilderness only when justified by predicted loss of resource values outside of wilderness. Conduct analysis in accordance with FSM 3430. (0190) (FDR)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Wilderness Area Management (B02)	23 Control problem animals on a case-by-case basis in cooperation with other agencies (FSM 2610) using methods directed at the offending animal but which present the least risk to other wildlife, and/or visitors. (0180) (FDR)	
Wildlife and Fish Resource Management (G01)	01 Where present, the following species are Management Indicator Species: -Deer; -Elk; and -All Federally-listed endangered or threatened plant and animal species. (0458) (FDR)	
	02 In addition to the above, use indicator species that represent the following categories: a. Riparian area dependent species; b. Wetland dependent species; c. Species dependent on either climax plant communities or one seral stage of a plant community or communities (forested land and rangeland); d. Tree cavity-dependent species; e. Game fish; f. Unique habitats for which there are dependent species (cliff, talus, cave); g. Small game species; h. Species dependent on multi-storied tree stands by commercial forest cover type; and i. Species which have particular scientific, local, or national interest, and species needing special management to prevent Federal listing as threatened or endangered. (0459) (FDR)	
	03 Maintain habitat for viable populations of all existing vertebrate wildlife species. (0289) (FDR)	a. Habitat for each species on the forest will be maintained at least at 40 percent or more of potential. (6289) (FDR)

FOREST DIRECTION

PRESCRIPTION FOR MANAGEMENT AREA 8A

(Provides for pristine wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is for the protection and perpetuation of essentially pristine bio-physical conditions and a high degree of solitude for both wildlife and humans with no perceptible evidence of past human use.

All resource management activities are integrated in such a way that evidence of current human use, including permitted and recreation livestock, is not noticeable the following season, or so that natural biological processes are not adversely or artifically changed over time by human use.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	01 Design and implement management activities to maintain a pristine ecosystem. (0218) (08A)	a. The Adopted Visual Quality Objective (VQO) is Preservation. (6132) (08A)
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	01 Provide opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation featuring solitude and to travel cross-country in an environment where success or failure is directly dependent on ability, knowledge and initiative. (0223) (08A)	
	02 Emphasize recreation opportunities on the most primitive end of the recreation opportunity spectrum. Manage use to provide very infrequent contact with other groups or individuals. (0224) (08A)	a. Maximum use and capacity levels are: - Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 2 other parties per day. - Trail and area-wide use capacity: (1) Open lands, meadow and alpine: 0.001 to 0.002 PAOT per acre. (2) Forested lands and shrub lands: 0.003 to 0.007 PAOT per acre. - Reduce the above use levels where unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources are likely to occur. (6128) (08A)
	03 Limit specially permitted parties to not more than one per 2500 acres. (0226) (08A)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	04 Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199) (08A)	
	05 Prohibit open fires when occurrence of fire-rings exceed Frissell class 1 site conditions on 10 percent or more of the known campsites within the management area. (0251) (08A)	a. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133) (08A)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	01 Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208) (08A)	
Wildlife and Fish Resource Management (C01)	01 Manage human activity so that wildlife and plant species population dynamics and distribution occurs naturally. Prohibit fish stocking except for reintroduction of indigenous species or where stocking has been previously authorized and practiced. (0220) (08A)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	01 Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182) (08A)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130) (08A) b. Limit utilization of forage to not more than 30 percent of current annual growth outside established allotments. (6342) (08A) c. Limit trampling of forage to not more than 40 percent of current annual herbaceous vegetation growth, outside established allotments.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08A

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Range Resource Management (D02)		(6344) (08A)
Special Use Management (Non-Recreation) (J01)	01 Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211) (08A)	
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	01 Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184) (08A)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3)(xvii). (6159) (08A) b. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133) (08A)
Trail Construction and Reconstruction (L22)	01 Do not construct or reconstruct trails. (0228) (08A)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	01 Prohibit man-made structures and facilities. (0219) (08A)	

PRESCRIPTION FOR MANAGEMENT AREA 8B

(Provides for primitive wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is to provide for the protection and perpetuation of natural bio-physical conditions. On-site regulation of recreation use is minimal. Travel is cross-country or by use of a low-density constructed trail system.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	01 Design and implement management activities so that the impact of man is not apparent and the area appears in a condition affected only by natural biotic succession. (0230) (08B)	a. The Adopted Visual Quality Objective (VQO) is Preservation. (6132) (08B)
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	01 Emphasize primitive recreation opportunities requiring a high degree of isolation, solitude, self-reliance and challenge while traveling cross-country or on system trails. (0231) (08B)	
	02 Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199) (08B)	
	03 Manage use to provide a low incidence of contact with other groups or individuals and to prevent unacceptable changes to the biophysical resources. (0301) (08B)	a. Maximum use and capacity levels are: - Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 6 other parties per day. - Trail and area-wide use capacity: Use Level / Open Lands / Forest & Shrub Lands On Trails (PAOT/Mile: 0.5-1.0 / 2-3 (6372) (08B) b. Area-wide Capacity: (PAOT/Acre) Open Lands Alpine, Krummholz .002 Rock, Mtn: grass .005

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08B

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)		Forest & Shrub Lands Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir, Riparian areas, White Pine .01 Spruce/Fir, Lodge-pole Pine, Aspen .02 (6336) (08B) c. Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity on more than 10 percent of the days during summer and fall use season. (6374) (08B)
	04 Manage sites to provide opportunity for moderate to high degree of solitude. (0626) (08B)	a. Use a minimum site spacing of 500 feet. (6338) (08B) b. Occupied site guidelines: (Maximum number of sites occupied at one time.) Lakes <5 acres 2 5-25 acres 3 >25 acres 4 Depending on site suitability/ availability Streams and Trails Open areas 2 sites/mile Forested areas 4 sites/mile (6340) (08B)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	01 Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208) (08B)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	01 Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182) (08B)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130) (08B)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08B

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Special Use Management (Non-Recreation) (J01)	01 Manage surface occupancy activities authorized prior to wilderness designation to reduce impact on wilderness values consistant with the intent of the occupancy authorization. (0210) (08B)	
	02 Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211) (08B)	
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	01 Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184) (08B)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3)(xvii). (6159) (08B) b. Provide Frissell condition classes 1 and 2 campsites only. (6133) (08B)
Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	01 Locate and design required access roads within the management area for authorized activities to minimize the biophysical and visual impact, and to facilitate restoration. (0213) (08B)	a. Roads will not be authorized: - On slopes steeper than 60%; - In areas of high erosion hazard; - In areas of high geologic hazard; - In areas of low visual absorption capacity that are unlikely for successful restoration; - In areas which would adversely affect threatened and endangered plant and animal species. (6165) (08B)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08B

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	02 Convert roads not needed for authorized activities to trails, or if they are not needed as part of the transportation system, restore them to the established VQO. (0254) (08B)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) (08B) b. Schedule trail maintenance in accordance with Regional Acceptable Work Standards. (FSM 1310 R2 ID No. 1 7/22/82.) (6131) (08B)
	03 Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet objectives of the wilderness transportation system. (0255) (08B)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7709.12, FSM 2323.11c and 2323.61d w/R-2 Supplement. (6134) (08B) b. Trail density will be less than one mile per square mile. Trails are constructed and maintained for established capacity levels. (6161) (08B)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	04 Construct bridges to only the standard necessary to accommodate the specified class of user. Construct bridges only where no safe opportunity exists to cross a stream or gorge during periods of normal stream flow. A safety hazard is a physical condition of a trail which may cause injury, is unusual or unexpected, and not readily identifiable by the trail user. It is not a condition which is easily identifiable and normally encountered for the type or location of the trail involved. The following examples illustrate this distinction: A hazard is a rotten bridge decking or handrail. A stream crossing where no bridge is provided and the user would expect this on the type and location of the trail is not a hazard. A hazard is a stable-appearing loose rock in a constructed treadway where all other rocks are stable. A trail treadway made up of rocks in a near-natural position, many of which are loose, is not a hazard. A hazard is a perennial bog-hole on a horse trail. An intermittent bog-hole which will dry up by early summer or within a few days following a rain storm is not a hazard. A hazard is a section of trail treadway supported by rotten cribbing. A section of trail where the treadway is obviously slippery is not a hazard. A hazard is a marked ford with holes deeper than the normal channel. A deep ford with a consistent stream bed is not a hazard. (0214) (08B) 05 Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists. (0215) (08B) 06 Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use. (0216) (08B)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) (08B)

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	07 Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts. (0249) (08B)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7109.11a and 11b. (6158) (08B)
	08 Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points. (0250) (08B)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	01 Prohibit construction of new administrative facilities or structures. In the event a substantial portion of the existing administrative facility and/or structure is destroyed, it will not be replaced. (0207) (08B)	

PRESCRIPTION FOR MANAGEMENT AREA 8C

(Provides for semi-primitive wilderness opportunities.)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

General Description and Goals:

Management emphasis is to provide for the protection and perpetuation of essentially natural bio-physical conditions. Solitude and a low level of encounters with other users or evidence of past use is not an essential part of the social setting. Human travel is principally on system trails. Designated campsites are used and show evidence of repeated, but acceptable levels of use.

All resource management activities are integrated in such a way that current human use leaves only limited and site-specific evidence of their passing. Areas with evidence of unacceptable levels of past use are rehabilitated and the affected area restored. Range allotments with authorized permanent structures, and authorized mineral exploration activities requiring multi-year surface occupancy facilities may be present within the area. Scientific and other authorized practices utilizing non-motorized equipment, but requiring up to season-long occupancy are compatible.

B. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Visual Resource Management (A04)	01 Manage for maximum retention of the natural landscape. Design and locate management activities to meet the Visual Quality Objective of Preservation in all areas except where specific surface occupancy is authorized by Wilderness legislation. In these areas, the Visual Quality Objective is Retention. (0173) (08C)	
Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)	01 Provide semi-primitive recreation opportunities requiring predominately unmodified natural settings, with a moderate to high degree of challenge and risk while traveling cross-country or on trails. (0237) (08C)	
	02 Prohibit open fires in alpine, krummholz, meadow areas and within riparian areas when: a. Use of dead and down wood for fuel is likely to violate diversity requirements, soil nutrient and erosion protection, or b. Visual resource objectives for the area likely could not be met. (0199) (08C)	
	03 Permit undesignated sites in Frissell condition class 1 through 3 where unrestricted camping is permitted. (0174) (08C)	
	04 Manage site use and occupancy to maintain sites within Frissell condition class 3 except for designated sites which may be class 4. Close and restore class 5 sites. (0175) (08C)	
	05 Manage summer use to allow moderate to high contact with other groups and individuals. (0752) (08C)	a. Areawide Capacity: (PAOT/Acre) Open lands Alpine, Krummholz .004 Rock, Mtn. grass .008 Forest and Shrub lands Ponderosa Pine, Douglas-fir, Riparian areas, White Pine .05 Spruce/fir, Lodgepole Pine, Aspen .08

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)		(6126) (08C)
		b. Maximum use and capacity levels are: - Trail and camp encounters during peak use days are less than 20 other parties per day. -Trail capacity is displayed below: Use Level / Open Lands / Forest & Shrub Lands On Trails (PAOT/Mile) / 2-3 / 9-11 (6346) (08C)
		c. Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity on more than 20 percent of the days during the summer use season. (6019) (08C)
	06 Reduce visitor use when the level of use exceeds capacity for more than 20 percent of the summer use season. (0489) (08C)	
	07 Permits for parties larger than the established limit may be issued when their presence can be adequately screened from the sights and sounds of other parties in the area. (0302) (08C)	
	08 Manage location of campsites to provide a moderate degree of solitude. (0628) (08C)	a. Locate campsites at least 300' apart. (6348) (08C) b. Occupied Site Guidelines: (Maximum number of sites occupied at one time.) Lakes < 5 acres 2

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08C

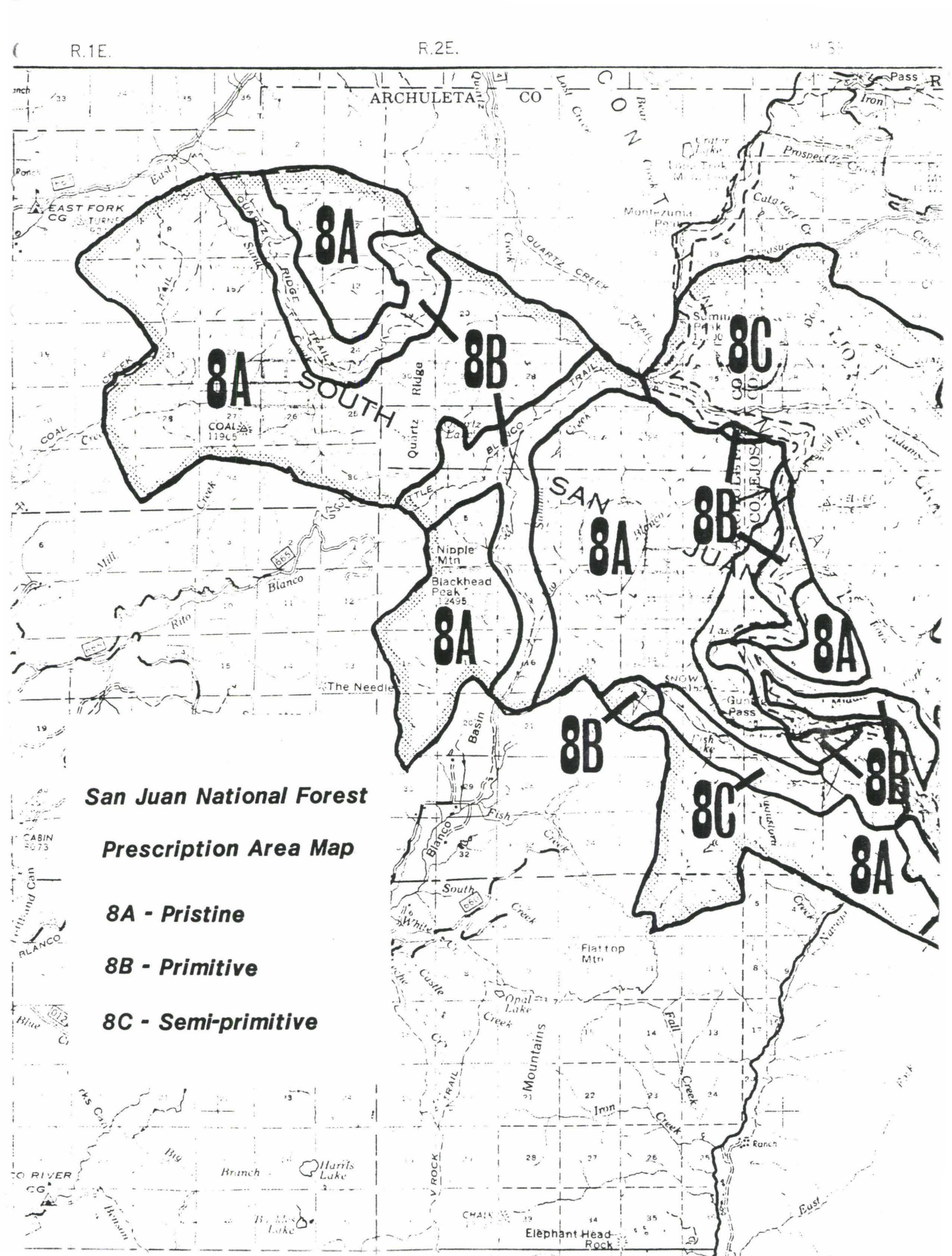
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Dispersed Recreation Management (A14 and 15)		5-25 acres 3 >25 acres 4 Streams Open areas 3 sites/mile Forested areas 6 sites/mile (6350) (08C)
	09 Manage site use and occupancy to maintain sites within Frissell condition class 3 except for designated sites which may be class 4. (0636) (08C)	a. Allow sites to be occupied 20 days/summer season or to the level required to maintain at least a stable trend in site condition. (6352) (08C) b. Close and restore Frissell condition class 4 sites unless a designated site. Close and restore class 5 sites. (6354) (08C)
Recreation Management (Private and Other Public Sector) (A16)	01 Manage outfitter-guide operations in the same manner as other visitors. Permit camping only in sites specified in outfitter-guide permits. Keep outfitter-guide activities harmonious with activities of non-guided visitors. Include outfitter-guide operations in calculations of level-of-use capacities. (0208) (08C)	
Range Resource Management (D02)	01 Manage livestock and herbivorous wildlife forage use in accordance with FSM 2320.3 (36 CFR 293.7). (0182) (08C)	a. Follow established utilization standards for areas, within grazing allotments. (6130) (08C)
Special Use Management (Non-Recreation) (J01)	01 Manage surface occupancy activities authorized prior to wilderness designation to reduce impact on wilderness values consistant with the intent of the occupancy authorization. (0210) (08C) 02 Permit only those uses authorized by wilderness legislation, which cannot be reasonably met on non-Wilderness lands. (0211) (08C)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
Soil Resource Management (KA1)	01 Restore soil disturbances caused by human use (past mining, grazing, trail construction and use, camping, etc.) to soil loss tolerance levels commensurate with the natural ecological processes for the treatment area. (0184) (08C)	a. Follow procedures specified in Agricultural Handbook 537 for Utilizing the Universal Soil Loss Equation. (Cautions contained in WO 2550 letter dated 5/28/82 should be noted.) The guidance for K and T factors are in the National Soils Handbook 407.1 (a)(3)(xvii). (6159) (08C)
Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	01 Locate and design required access roads within the management area for authorized activities to minimize the biophysical and visual impact, and to facilitate restoration. (0213) (08C)	a. Roads will not be authorized: - On slopes steeper than 60%; - In areas of high erosion hazard; - In areas of high geologic hazard; - In areas of low visual absorption capacity that are unlikely for successful restoration; - In areas which would adversely affect threatened and endangered plant and animal species. (6165) (08C)
	02 Convert roads not needed for authorized activities to trails, or if they are not needed as part of the transportation system, restore them to the established VQO. (0254) (08C)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) (08C) b. Schedule trail maintenance in accordance with Regional Acceptable Work Standards. (FSM 1310 R2 ID No. 1 7/22/82.) (6131) (08C)
	03 Construct or reconstruct trails only when needed to meet objectives of the wilderness transportation system. (0255) (08C)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7709.12, FSM 2323.11c and 2323.61d w/R-2 Supplement. (6134) (08C)

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION 08C

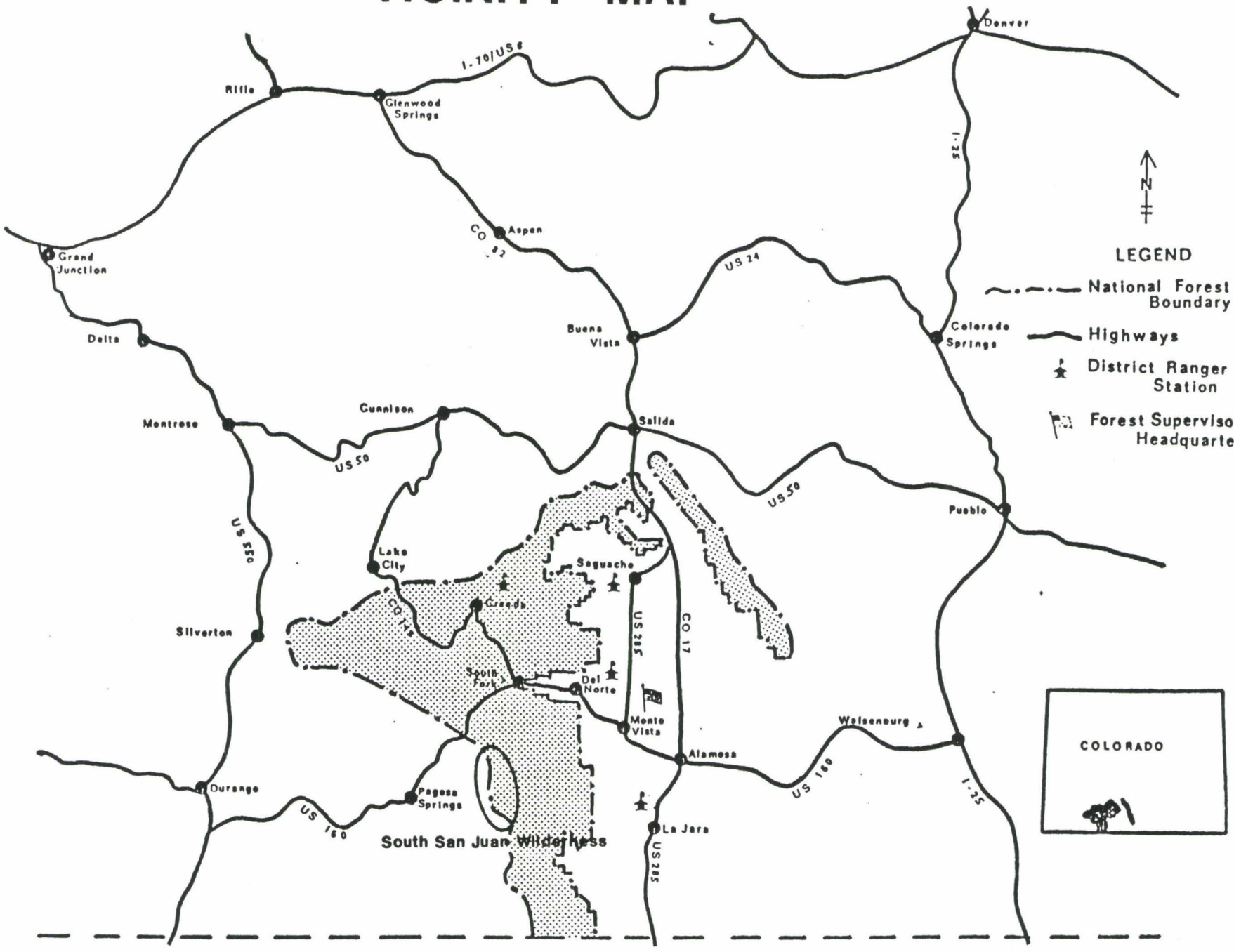
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)		b. Trail density will not exceed two miles per square mile. Trails are constructed and maintained for moderate to high levels of use as specified below. (6162) (08C)
	04 Construct bridges to only the standard necessary to accommodate the specified class of user. Construct bridges only where no safe opportunity exists to cross a stream or gorge during periods of normal stream flow.	
	A safety hazard is a physical condition of a trail which may cause injury, is unusual or unexpected, and not readily identifiable by the trail user. It is not a condition which is easily identifiable and normally encountered for the type or location of the trail involved. The following examples illustrate this distinction:	
	A hazard is a rotten bridge decking or handrail. A stream crossing where no bridge is provided and the user would expect this on the type and location of the trail is not a hazard.	
	A hazard is a stable-appearing loose rock in a constructed treadway where all other rocks are stable. A trail treadway made up of rocks in a near-natural position, many of which are loose, is not a hazard.	
	A hazard is a perennial bog-hole on a horse trail. An intermittent bog-hole which will dry up by early summer or within a few days following a rain storm is not a hazard.	
	A hazard is a section of trail treadway supported by rotten cribbing. A section of trail where the treadway is obviously slippery is not a hazard.	
	A hazard is a marked ford with holes deeper than the normal channel. A deep ford with a consistent stream bed is not a hazard. (0214) (08C)	

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	GENERAL DIRECTION	STANDARDS & GUIDELINES
CONTINUATION OF: Transportation System Management (L01 & 20)	05 Use corduroy and/or puncheon treads across bogs where no safe and feasible bypass opportunity exists. (0215) (08C)	
	06 Close or sign system trails when not maintained to the safe standard for the specified use. (0216) (08C)	a. Maintain trails in accordance with standards in the Trail Handbook (FSH 7709.12). (6129) (08C)
	07 Use signs of unstained wood with routed letters and mounted on unstained posts. (0249) (08C)	a. Follow standards specified in FSH 7109.11a and 11b. (6158) (08C)
	08 Provide signs at trail terminals and trail junctions only. Include only trail identification and identification of terminal points. (0250) (08C)	
FA&O Construction Reconstruction and Maintenance (L24 AND 25)	01 Prohibit construction of new administrative facilities or structures. In the event a substantial portion of the existing administrative facility and/or structure is destroyed, it will not be replaced. (0207) (08C)	


R.1E.
R.2E.
ARCHULETA CO
CONEJOS CO
EAST FORK CG
8A
8B
8C
SOUTH
SAN JUAN
Quartz Ridge
Nipple Mtn
Blackhead Peak
12495
COAL
11965
The Needle
Gunnison Pass
Flattop Mtn
Opal Lake
Harris Lake
Elephant Head Rock
Blanco
Fish Creek
South Fork
White
Iron Creek
Mountains
San Juan National Forest
Prescription Area Map
8A - Pristine
8B - Primitive
8C - Semi-primitive

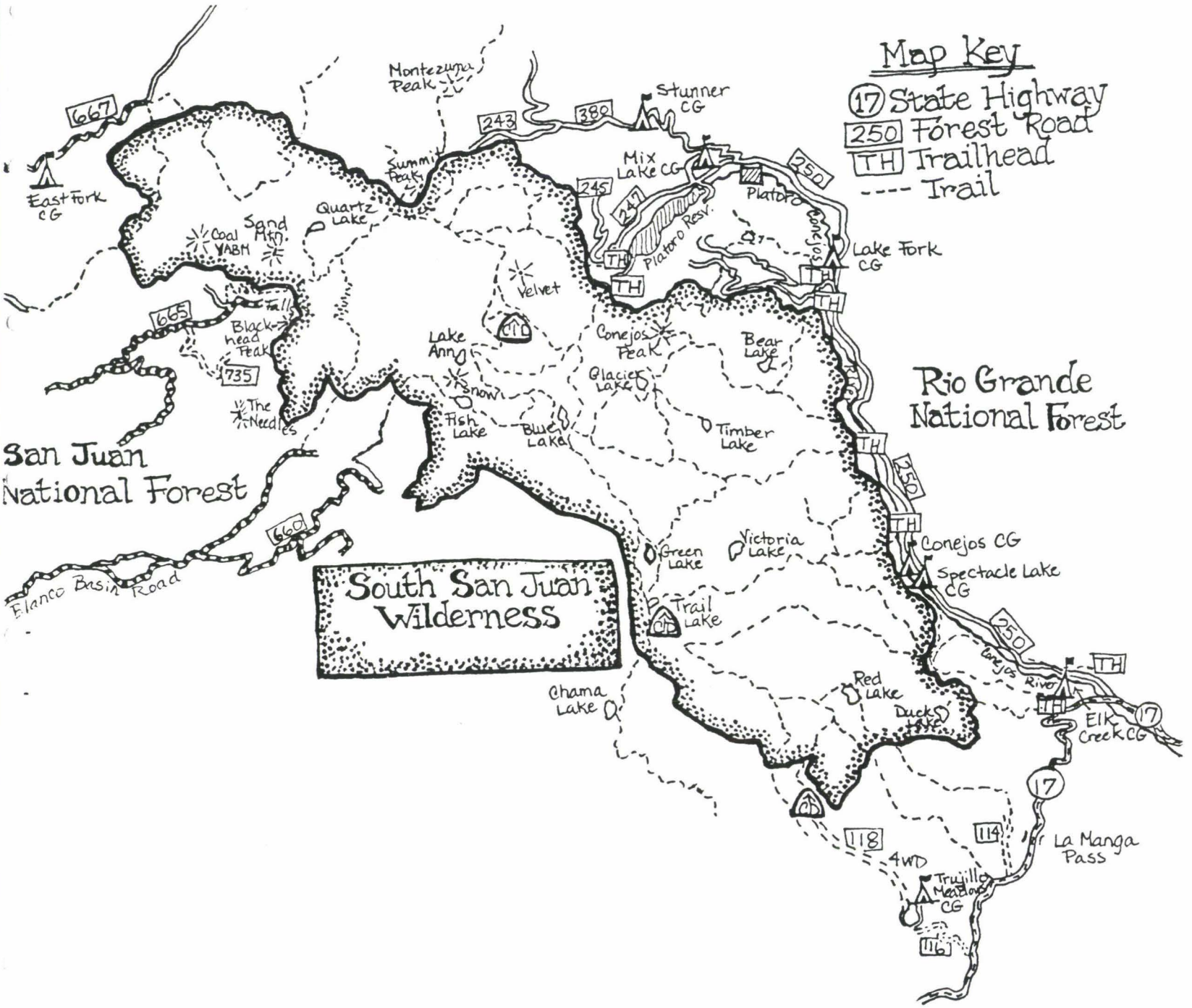
C

VICINITY MAP



Rio Grande National Forest

South San Juan Wilderness Map



FOREST
SERVICE
NEWS

RIO GRANDE National Forest
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
1803 WEST HIGHWAY 160
MONTE VISTA, CO 81144

CONTACT: Greg Thompson / Ron Jablonski, PAO 719-852-5941
DATE: 8/27/90

PRESS RELEASE

The Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests are in the process of developing an Implementation Schedule for the South San Juan Wilderness Area. This Wilderness Implementation Schedule will list on-the-ground projects and action items which will assist us in implementing our Forest Plans. An example of an on-the-ground project would be the reconstruction of a trail(s). An example of a action item would be the development of a fire management policy within the South San Juan Wilderness.

If you have an interest in the South San Juan Wilderness, please send us your ideas or concerns which you would like considered during the drafting of the Implementation Schedule.

Your ideas, concerns or suggestions must be received on or before October 19, 1990 at the Rio Grande National Forest, 1803 W. Highway 160, Monte Vista, Colorado 81144, Attention: Greg Thompson.

Thanks for your help.

United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Rio Grande National Forest | 1803 W. Highway 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144

Reply to: 2320

Date: September 13,1990

mADDRESSn

Dear mNAMEn:

The Rio Grande and San Juan National Forests are in the process of developing an Implementation Schedule for the South San Juan Wilderness Area. This Wilderness Implementation Schedule will list on-the-ground projects and action items which will assist us in implementing our Forest Plans. An example of an on-the-ground project would be the reconstruction of a trail or trails. An example of an action item would be the development of a Fire Management Policy within the South San Juan Wilderness.

Coordination meetings with the Conejos Peak and Pagosa Springs Districts have taken place to identify issues and concerns they feel should be addressed in the Implementation Schedule. The next step in developing this Implementation Schedule is to inform and involve our interested publics.

You have been identified as an interested public in the South San Juan Wilderness. We are asking you to help us identify the significant issues, concerns or other information about the South San Juan Wilderness which you would like considered during the drafting of the Implementation Schedule. Enclosed with this letter is a list of issues and concerns identified during the coordination meetings with the Ranger Districts.

Your ideas, concerns or suggestions should be submitted to the Rio Grande National Forest **on or before Friday, October 19, 1990.** Please forward your letters to: Rio Grande National Forest, 1803 W. Highway 160, Monte Vista, Colorado 81144 -- Attention: Greg Thompson.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Thompson at (719) 852-5941. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

R. Gregory Thompson

R. GREGORY THOMPSON
Forester

Enclosure

Identified Issues/Concerns

Conejos Peak R.D.

a. Access/Trail System
Assess existing trailheads, capacity and locations to determines if additional trailheads are needed or some need to be relocated. Assess the existing trail system and determine if some neeed to be relocated, closed or new ones added to disperse the users. Look at the opportunity to locate some trails outside the wilderness to be used to lessen the impact within the wilderness.

b. Trends
Monitor use and trends at heavily used areas (Blue Lake, Red Lake, Duck Lake, Rock Lake, etc.). Monitor 5-10% of inventoried sites and assess site conditions, use, screening, solitude and establish photo points.

c. Water Rights
Look at the private land area and pipes, structures within the wilderness and determine if valid water rights exist or if trespass action is needed.

d. Livestock Use/Fire Policy
Outline what the Wilderness Act says about livestock in Wilderness Areas (Informational) and any problems which need to be corrected will be handled in the Allotment Management Plans.
Outline the actions we will take with natural fires in the Wilderness and if areas will be identified for direction suppression action because of aesthetic values or to meet visual quality objectives.

e. Group Size/Dogs on Leash/Camping Regs
Do we want/need regulation for group size of 25 (includes both people and horses); dogs on leash and camping within distance of lakes, streams and trails for our side of the South San Juan's.

Pagosa Springs R.D.

a. Trends
Monitor use and visitor trends on 5-10% of the inventoried sites with the wilderness. Assess site conditions, use, screening, solitude and establish photo points.

b. Trailheads
Determine if more trailheads are needed and continue with the trailhead registration cards and monitor trends and use.

c. Access

Assess existing trailheads, locations and capacity to determine if additional trailheads are needed. Improve trailheads where appropriate.

d. Fisheries

Determine the appropriateness of stocking streams, lakes within the wilderness and incorporate schedule into WIS if determined appropriate.

e. Group Size/Dogs on Leash/Camping Regs

Do we want/need regulations for group size of 25 (both people and horses); dogs on leash and camping within distance of lakes, streams and trails on your side of the South San Juan's.

E

APPENDIX E

FRISSELL CONDITION CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Condition Class 1 Ground vegetation flattened but not permanently injured. Minimal physical change except for a possible small rock fire area. These sites are barely recognizable as camping sites. If not situated in sensitive areas (wet areas, slumps), no management action is needed. Maintain current use level if nearby sites must be closed.

Condition Class 2 Ground vegetation worn away around fire area or center of activity. A change in site appearance is now apparent but within acceptable limits. These areas are readily identified as campsites and will attract use. Future use should be monitored to detect adverse change.

Condition Class 3 Ground vegetation lost on most of the site, but humus and litter still present in all but a few areas. This is a transitional condition. Considerable change in plant cover is evident but little sign of soil problems. This condition may be accepted as normal in areas of high attraction. However, modification of current use patterns and intensities may be needed to prevent further change.

Condition Class 4 Bare mineral soil widespread. Tree roots exposed on the surface. Deterioration is accelerating. If current level and type of use continues, soil erosion, loss of tree cover, and aesthetic degradation are likely. Withdraw use from these sites and allow recovery. If sites are improperly located, permanent closure should be considered. If sites are reopened, insure that use patterns are adjusted to prevent reinjury.

Condition Class 5 Soil erosion obvious. Trees reduced in vigor or dead. Natural recovery will be extremely slow. The sites should be closed permanently and alternative sites located. If the site is critical to the recreation pattern, extensive rehabilitation will be required to return to acceptable conditions.

DIRECTIONS FOR CAMPSITE INVENTORY
WEMINUCHE WILDERNESS Pine_R_D_ _ _

1. Site Number: _ _ _ _/_ _/_ _ _ use Regional quadnumber as first prefix; Drainage initials, example JC for Johnson Cr, LO for LaOsa, site number 000 to 999.
   _____Asterick if along lake shore.
2. Section, Township and Range ____S ____T ____R
3. Date coded onsite: ___Month ____Day ____Year.
4. Coded by:_____Name
5. Elevation: _ _ _ _ 0 0 (nearest 100 ft)
6. Vegetation: (circle one)
   1. Closed Forest - spruce/fir, lodgepole pine, aspen
   2. Open Forest - ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, riparian (willow) areas
   3. Non-Forest, densely vegetated - rock, mountain grass
   4. Non-Forest, sparsely vegetated - Alpine, Krummholz
   Dominant species _____
7. Land form: (circle one)
   1. Floodplain 4. Sideslope
   2. Other valley bottom 5. Ridgetop
   3. Cirque basin 6. Other _____
8. Distance to closest trailhead (miles) (Do in office)
9. Distance to constructed Trail _____feet
   Screening: (circle one) 1. Complete 2. Partial 3. None — can be vegetation, terrain features or in combination.
10. Distance to water: _____feet
    Type: (circle one) 1. River or Creek 2. Lake 3. Spring 4. Other _____ If dry camp, so state
11. Distance to closest campsite_____feet (if less than 500 feet)
    Screening: (circle one) 1. Complete 2. Partial 3. None (can be vegetation, terrain features or in combination.)
12. Number of other campsites within ½ mile (do in office
13. Maximum Party size that can be accommodated: (circle one)
    1. 1-2
    2. 3 to 6
    3. 7 to 10
    4. 11 to 15
    5. more than 15
    (This would relate to area to accommodate backpack tent and fire circle)
14. Type of Use: (circle as many as apply)
    1. Foot 2. Stock 3. River 4. Outfitter
15. Closes firewood source: (circle one)
    1. on-site
    2. < 100 feet
    3. 100 to 300 feet
    4. 300 feet to ½ mile
    5. > ½ mile
    (This considers firewood as downed wood only.)
16. Closest forage supply: (circle one)
    1. on-site
    2. < 100 feet
    3. 100-300 feet
    4. 300 feet to ½ mile
    5. > ½ mile
    (This considers sufficient grazing to overnight a minimum of 3 horses opening 1 acre or larger).

Impact Evaluation	On Campsite	On Unused Comparative Area
17. Vegetative Cover: (be sure to compare similar areas same species, slope, rockines, and canopy cover)	1. 0-5% 4. 51-75% 2. 6-25% 5. 76-100% 3. 26-50%	1. 0-5% 4. 51-75% 2. 6-25% 5. 76-100% 3. 26-50%
18. Mineral Soil Exposure: (Persent of area that is bare mineral soil)	1. 0-5% 4. 51-75% 2. 6-25% 5. 76-100% 3. 26-50%	1. 0-5% 4. 51-57% 2. 6-25% 5. 76-100% 3. 26-50%

Rating (circle the description that best fits the site)

	1.	2.	3.
19. Vegetation loss:	No difference in coverage	Difference one coverage class	Difference two or more coverage classes
20. Mineral Soil Increase:	No difference in coverage	Differnece one coverage class	Difference two or more coverage classes
21. Tree Damage: No. of trees scarred/ felled_____ % of trees scarred/felled _____% est.	No more than broken lower branches	1-8 scarred trees 1-3 badly scarred or felled	>8 scarred trees >3 badly scarred or felled.
22. Root Exposure: No. of trees w/roots exp. % of trees w/roots exp. ___%	None	1-6 trees w/roots exposed	>6 trees w/roots exposed

	1	2	3
23. Development:	No more than 1 scattered fire ring	1 fire ring w/or w/primitive log seat	>1 fire ring or other major development
24. Cleanliness: No. of fire scars _____	No more than scattered charcoal fr 1 fire ring	Remnants of 1 fire ring, some litter/manure	Human waste, much litter or manure
25. Social Trails: No of trails _____	No more than 1 discernible trail	2-3 discernible, max 1 well worn	> 3 discernible or more than 1 well-wor
26. Camp Area: Est. area _____(ft^2)	< 500 ft^2	500-2000 ft^2	> 2000 ft^2
27. Barren Core Camp Area: Ext. area _____(ft^2)	< 50 ft^2	50-500 ft^2	> 500 ft^2

28. Photo record: _____

29. Comments: (details about location of site, impacts, mgt suggestions, etc)

30. Calculation of impact index (do in office)
numerical value of item numbers:

19. Vegetative loss _____
20. Mineral soil increase _____
21. Tree damage _____
22. Root exposure _____
23. Development _____
24. Cleanliness _____
25. Social trails _____
26. Camp area _____
27. Barren cove camp area _____

Impact Index _____

How Each Indicator will be Measured

1. Number of trail encounters per day - Direct contact of visitors late in the day or while in camp by the wilderness ranger or guard. Informal conversation with visitors will be used to ascertain number of parties they encountered during the day. Information will be later recorded on visitor monitoring forms.

2. Number of other parties camped within sight or sound per day - Direct observation and/or contact of visitors in camp by the wilderness ranger or guard. Information will later be recorded on visitor monitoring forms.

3. Area of barren core in the area impacted - Recorded by wilderness ranger or guard on campsite inventory form.

4. Number of damaged trees or trees with exposed roots surrounding the campsite - Recorded by wilderness ranger or guard on campsite inventory form. Stumps with a height of less than 50% of diameter will not be counted.

5. Number of camp sites per 640-acre area - Tabulated by wilderness ranger or guard.

6. Number of camp sites above a particular condition class index per 640-acre area - Using the campsite inventory form, wilderness rangers or guards will determine an impact index for the campsites being inventoried. Instructions on how to fill out the impact ratings on the campsite inventory form as well as the form itself are given in Appendix A of this plan. The nine parameters used to calculate the impact index have been given weights according to this importance. They are as follows:

Parameter	Weight
vegetation loss	2
bare soil increase	3
tree damage	2
root exposure	3
development	1
cleanliness	1
camp area	4
barren core camp area	2
social trails	2

The justification for this weighting is:

(1) Development and cleanliness are least important because they are superficial changes that can easily be remedied.

(2) Camp area is most important because it provides a measure of how large an area has been impacted.

(3) Bare soil increase and root exposure are particularly important indicators of intensity of impact because they become pronounced only on the most heavily used and highly altered campsites.

Site Summary Rating - In order to make a comparison to the 5 point Frissell method, it is desirable to aggregate the 9 individual parameter ratings into a summary rating. Along with the field rating, each of the parameters need to be assigned a weight value. These range from 0-2. A value is assigned depending on the relative importance of that parameter. For example, change in vegetation loss maybe twice as important as development. The total of weights for the 9 parameters should be in the range of 10 to 12.5 to most accurately compare Cole to Frissell. The summary rating (SR) is the sum of the product of each parameter rating multiplied by the weight, divided by the sum of the weights. The following is an example of a conversion scale:

Conversion Scale of Cole Summary Rating to Frissell

Cole	0-.6	.7-1.2	1.3-1.8	1.9-2.4	2.5-3
Frissell	1	2	3	4	5

These calculations can be done by hand, entering chosen weights into the optional column on the form and completing the mathematics.

F

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

7/31/86

TO: Jack Berryman ✓
Gordon Robertson
Daniel A. Poole
Ed Bloedel
Hugh Black
Dave Almand

From: Dave Porter, BLM

Subject: Fish and Wildlife Guidelines
for Wilderness

The attached is the final version and incorporates all changes as agreeded upon by all parties involved. We want to thank all for your input and cooperation in this effort. Both the Forest Service and the BLM plan to include the Guidelines in their respective manuals and make them available to our field offices within the next few weeks.

Again, thanks for all the hard work.

Dave Porter

* U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1983 413-230/9106

POLICIES AND GUIDELINES FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN NATIONAL FOREST AND BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT WILDERNESS

Purpose

This statement of policy and the following guidelines are intended to provide guidance to State and Federal personnel for the management of fish and wildlife in wilderness in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 (16 USC 1131-1136). Both State and Federal agencies are responsible for fostering mutual understanding and cooperation in the management of fish and wildlife in wilderness. These guidelines should serve as a framework for cooperation among the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the States in the coordination of fish and wildlife management and in the development of cooperative agreements or other management plans.

These policies and guidelines were developed within the overall context of the purpose and direction of the Wilderness Act, and they should be made available to all agencies responsible for management of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to appropriate State fish and wildlife agencies, and to other interested parties.

General Policy

Fish and wildlife management activities in wilderness will be planned and carried out in conformance with the Wilderness Act's purpose of securing an "enduring resource of wilderness" for the American people. The wilderness resource is defined in section 2(c) of the Act, as an area essentially "untrammeled by man", where natural ecological processes operate freely and the area is "affected primarily by the forces of nature." The National Wilderness Preservation System will be managed to ensure that ecological succession, including fire and infestation of insects, operate as freely as possible with only minimum influence by humans.

Fish and wildlife management activities will emphasize the protection of natural processes. Management activities will be guided by the principle of doing only the minimum necessary to manage the area as wilderness.

Section 4(d)(7) of the Wilderness Act stipulates that "Nothing in this Act shall be construed as affecting the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the several States with respect to wildlife and fish in the national forests." Angling, hunting, and trapping are legitimate wilderness activities, subject to applicable State and Federal laws and regulations.

This nation is fortunate in having a National Wilderness Preservation System encompassing a wide range of ecosystems. Specific on-the-ground conditions will result in slightly different application of these guidelines in so vast a system. These different applications are spelled out in National Forest Plans or wilderness management plans. This is both appropriate and proper, if we are to allow nature to play the dominant role.

1. Use of Motorized Equipment

Section 4(c) of the Wilderness Act states:

> Except as specifically provided for in this Act, and subject to existing private rights, there shall be no commercial enterprise and no permanent road within any wilderness area designated by this Act and, except as necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area for the purpose of this Act (including measures required in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons within the area), there shall be no temporary road, no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment or motorboats, no landing of aircraft, no other form of mechanical transport, and no structure or installation within any such area.

The emphasis is on the management of the area as wilderness as opposed to the management of a particular resource. This language is viewed as direction that all management activities within wilderness be done without motor

vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport, unless truly necessary to administer the area or are specifically permitted by other provisions in the Act. It means that any such use should be rare and temporary; that no roads can be built; and that wilderness managers must determine such use is the minimum necessary to accomplish the task. Any use of motorized equipment or mechanical transport requires advance approval by the administering agency.

2. Fish and Wildlife Research and Management Surveys

Research on fish and wildlife, their habitats and the recreational users of these resources is a legitimate activity in wilderness when conducted "in a manner compatible with the preservation of the wilderness environment" (Sec. 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act). Methods that temporarily infringe on the wilderness environment may be approved if alternative methods or other locations are not available. Research or management surveys must be approved in writing, on a case-by-case basis, by the administering agency.

Helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft overflights may be used to conduct approved fish and wildlife research activities. Aircraft must be used in a manner that minimizes disturbance of other users, including humans and wildlife.

All fish and wildlife studies within and over wilderness must be conducted so as to preserve the natural character of the wilderness. Aerial counts and observations of wildlife may be permissible for management of wilderness wildlife resources. Capturing and marking of animals, radio telemetry, and occasional temporary installations (such as shelters for cameras and

scientific apparatus and enclosures and exclosures essential for wildlife research or management surveys) may be permitted, if they are essential to studies that cannot be accomplished elsewhere.

Guidelines

a. Obtain specific written approval or permits from the administering agency before erecting any structure, enclosure, or exclosure.

b. Locate and construct all structures so as to make them unobtrusive on the landscape.

c. Construct structures of native materials or camouflage to make them blend with their natural surroundings.

d. Plan aircraft flights over wilderness to minimize disturbance. Consider time of day, season of the year, route and altitude of flight, and location of landing areas on the perimeter of the wilderness.

e. Research projects underway when a wilderness is designated may continue, but modify research methods to minimize disturbance of the wilderness environment.

f. Installation of permanent base stations within wilderness is not permitted for monitoring of radio-instrumented animals.

g. The administering agency should only approve capture methods that minimize the impact on the wilderness environment.

3. Facility Development and Habitat Alteration

In rare instances, facility development and habitat alteration may be necessary to alleviate adverse impacts caused by human activities on fish and wildlife. For the benefit of wildlife that spend only part of the year in wilderness, give first priority to locating facilities or habitat alterations outside wilderness.

Flow-maintenance dams, water developments, water diversion devices, ditches and associated structures, and other fish and wildlife habitat developments necessary for fish and wildlife management (which were in existence before wilderness designation) may be permitted to remain in operation.

Clearing of debris that impedes the migratory movements of fish on primary spawning streams may be permitted, but only in a manner compatible with the wilderness resource.

Maintenance of existing water supplies and development of additional water supplies may be permitted, but only when essential to preserve the wilderness resource and to correct unnatural conditions resulting from human influence.

Guidelines

a. Submit proposals for new structures or habitat alterations to the administering agency for approval.

b. Build or maintain new and existing structures permitted for wildlife management in a manner that minimizes the visual impacts on the landscape.

c. Limit clearing of debris from spawning streams to those identified in the wilderness management plan as being critical to the propagation of fish.

d. Use only nonmotorized equipment to clear debris. Use explosives only when the use of hand tools is not practical, and only outside of heavy visitor-use periods.

e. The administering agency and the State agency will jointly make decisions to remove existing water related improvements.

f. If it is necessary to restore essential food plants after human disturbance, use only indigenous plant species.

4. Threatened and Endangered Species

Many wilderness areas provide important habitat for Federally listed threatened and endangered species of wildlife. Actions necessary to protect or recover threatened or endangered species, including habitat manipulation and special protection measures, may be implemented in wilderness. But such actions must be necessary for the perpetuation or recovery of the species and it must be demonstrated that the actions cannot be done more effectively

outside wilderness. Use only the minimum actions necessary and the methods most appropriate in wilderness.

Guidelines

a. Manage wilderness to protect known populations of Federally listed threatened or endangered species where necessary for their perpetuation and to aid in their recovery in previously occupied habitat.

b. When alternative areas outside of wilderness offer equal or better opportunities for habitat improvement or species protection, take actions to recover threatened or endangered species outside of wilderness first.

c. Threatened and endangered species may be transplanted into previously occupied habitat within wilderness.

d. All transplants or habitat improvement projects require approval by the administering agency.

e. To prevent Federal listing, protect indigenous species that could become threatened or endangered or are listed as threatened or endangered by States.

5. Angling, Hunting and Trapping

Angling, hunting and trapping are legitimate wilderness activities subject to applicable State and Federal laws and regulations.

6. Population Sampling

Scientific sampling of fish and wildlife populations is an essential procedure in the protection of natural populations in wilderness.

Guidelines

a. Use only methods that are compatible with the wilderness environment.

b. Gill netting, battery-operated electrofishing, and other standard techniques of population sampling may be used.

c. Closely coordinate sampling activities with the administering agency and schedule them to avoid heavy public-use periods.

7. Chemical Treatment

Chemical treatment may be necessary to prepare waters for the reestablishment of indigenous species, to protect or recover Federally listed threatened or endangered species, or to correct undesirable conditions resulting from the

influence of man. Species of fish traditionally stocked before wilderness designation may be considered indigenous if the species is likely to survive. Undesirable conditions and affected species shall be identified in wilderness plans.

Guidelines

a. Use only registered pesticides according to label directions.

b. In selecting pesticides, give preference to those that will have the least impact on non-target species and on the wilderness environment.

c. Schedule chemical treatments during periods of low human use, insofar as possible.

d. Immediately dispose of fish removed in a manner agreed to by the administering agency and the State agency.

8. Spawn Taking

The collection of fish spawn shall be permitted from wilderness when alternative sources are unavailable or unreliable, or where spawn taking was an established practice before wilderness designation.

Guidelines

a. Do not use motorized equipment to assist in collecting and removing spawn.

b. Use of techniques and facilities necessary to take spawn, which were in existence before wilderness designation, may continue as provided for in the wilderness management plan.

c. Facilities for spawn-taking stations approved after wilderness designation must be removed after the termination of each season's operation.

d. Decisions to prohibit spawn taking, where it was an established practice before wilderness designation, will be made jointly by the administering agency and the State agency.

9. Fish Stocking

Fish stocking may be conducted by the State agency in coordination with the administering agency, using means appropriate for wilderness, when either of the following criteria is met: (a) to reestablish or maintain an indigenous species adversely affected by human influence; or (b) to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species.

Selection of species for stocking will be determined jointly by the administering agency and the State agency. Exotic species of fish shall not be stocked. The order of preference for stocking fish species is (a) Federally listed threatened or endangered indigenous species, (b) indigenous species. Species of fish traditionally stocked before wilderness designation may be considered indigenous if the species is likely to survive. Numbers and size of fish and time of stocking will be determined by the State agency.

Barren lakes and streams may be considered for stocking, if there is mutual agreement that no appreciable loss of scientific values or adverse effects on wilderness resources will occur.

Guidelines

a. The State agency shall make fish stocking schedules available to the administering agency, indicating what species and numbers are planned for each water within a wilderness.

b. Adjust stocking rates to minimize the likelihood of exceeding the carrying capacity of the water being stocked so as to reduce the chance of producing a population imbalance and to minimize the likelihood of attracting overuse detrimental to the wilderness resource.

10. Aerial Fish Stocking

Aerial stocking of fish shall be permitted for those waters in wilderness where this was an established practice before wilderness designation or where other practical means are not available. Aerial stocking requires approval by the administering agency.

Guidelines

a. As justification for aerial stocking, the State agency will supply the administering agency a list of those waters where stocking with aircraft was an established practice before wilderness designation, indicating the type of aircraft used (fixed-wing or helicopter). This justification will become a part of the wilderness management plan.

b. To stock waters that had not been aerially stocked before wilderness designation, the State agency will demonstrate to the administering agency the need for using aircraft.

c. Plan aircraft flights over wilderness to minimize disturbance. Consider season of year, time of day, route and altitude of flight, and location of landing areas on the perimeter of the wilderness.

11. Transplanting Wildlife

Transplants (removal, reintroduction, or supplemental introduction) of terrestrial wildlife species in wilderness may be permitted if necessary: (a) to perpetuate or recover a threatened or endangered species; or (b) to restore the population of an indigenous species eliminated or reduced by human influence.

Transplants shall be made in a manner compatible with the wilderness character of the area. Transplant projects, including follow-up monitoring, require advance written approval by the administering agency.

Guidelines

a. Motorized methods and temporary holding and handling facilities may be permitted if they are the minimum necessary to accomplish an approved transplant.

12. Wildlife Damage Control

Wildlife damage control in wilderness may be necessary to protect Federally listed threatened or endangered species, to prevent transmission of diseases or parasites affecting other wildlife and humans, or to prevent serious losses of domestic livestock. Control of nonindigenous species also may be necessary to reduce conflicts with indigenous species, particularly if the latter species are threatened or endangered.

Guidelines

a. Acceptable control measures include lethal and nonlethal methods, depending upon need, justification, location, conditions, efficiency and applicability of State and Federal laws.

b. Control measures will be implemented by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the administering agency, the State fish and wildlife agency, or other approved State agency, pursuant to cooperative agreements or memoranda of understanding. Wildlife damage control must be approved by the administering agency on a case-by-case basis.

c. Direct control at individual animals causing the problem.

d. Use only the minimum amount of control necessary to solve the problem.

e. Use pesticides only where other measures are impractical. Use only registered pesticides according to label directions and subject to the following restrictions:

1) Pesticides may be applied only by certified pesticide applicators.

2) The placement of pesticides shall be accurately indicated on the largest scale USGS map available.

3) Place warning signs at the entrance to the area where pesticides are being used to warn the public of any dangers to themselves or their pets.

4) In the selection of pesticides, give preference to those that will have the least impact on non-target species and on the wilderness environment.

13. Visitor Management to Protect Wilderness Wildlife Resources.

Many wildlife species are sensitive to human encroachments on their ranges. Grizzly bear, bighorn sheep, elk, mountain goat, birds of prey (such as peregrine falcon and bald eagle), other migratory and resident birds, and certain other wilderness wildlife species cannot tolerate excessive human disturbance, particularly during certain seasons of the year.

When necessary to reduce human disturbance to a wildlife species, the administering agency, in coordination with the State agency, may take direct or indirect management actions to control visitor use.

Guidelines

a. Specify in the wilderness management plan the management actions necessary and the agency responsible to reduce conflicts with wildlife.

b. If and when it becomes apparent that public use is significantly degrading the wilderness wildlife resources, limitations on visitor use may be imposed and enforced by the appropriate agency. Any limitations will be applied equitably to all wilderness visitors.

14. Management of Fire

The objectives of fire management in wilderness are to: (a) permit lightning-caused fires to play, as nearly as possible, their natural ecological role within wilderness and (b) reduce, to an acceptable level, the risks and consequences of wildfire within wilderness or escaping from wilderness. Fire ignited by lightning will be permitted to burn or will be suppressed as prescribed in an approved plan. Prescribed fires ignited by man may be permitted to reduce unnatural buildup of fuels only if necessary to meet objectives (a) and (b) above. Although additional benefits may result from man-ignited prescribed fire, vegetative manipulation will not be used to justify such fires.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

JUN 11 1982

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to recommend for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System segments of the Conejos River in Colorado.

This recommendation is based on the study and report as directed by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (82 Stat. 906 as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1271-1287). The detailed study of the river was conducted jointly by the Forest Service and the State of Colorado. Other Federal agencies cooperated in the study. The enclosed Final Environmental Impact Statement and Study Report have been through the 90-day review required by Section 4(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the public review required by Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The comments received during the review are a part of the enclosed report.

The proposal for designation of the Conejos River appears to be viable. There are no known or apparent conflicts with the programs of other Federal agencies. The lands involved are primarily in Federal ownership and administered by the Forest Service. The State of Colorado strongly supports this recommendation.

The study of the Conejos River found that the entire study segment of 48.8 miles met the criteria for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. However, nondesignation of the lower 10 miles of the river will result in substantial savings in implementing a Wild and Scenic Rivers program and will lessen the possible impacts on the private landowners. In addition, we have reexamined the proposal indicated as preferred in the enclosed report and conclude that eliminating approximately a 2-mile segment below Platoro Dam will eliminate several tracts of private lands and is in the public interest. I recommend, therefore, that about 36.8 miles of the qualifying segment be designated for inclusion in the National System.

The Conejos River flows through both public and private lands. Administration of the river would be by the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. The area encompassed within the proposed boundaries is approximately 11,776 acres, including about 40 acres of private ownership. The remaining acres are Federal lands in the Rio Grande National Forest administered by the Forest Service. No land acquisition costs are anticipated if the proposal is implemented. The study plan indicates a need of $1.9 million for development. We have reexamined the development costs and found some of the needs to be required regardless of

the river designation. Designation of the Conejos River as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System will result in increased use thereby magnifying the need to provide adequate facilities and resource protection. The development costs would be required over a 5- to 10-year period following approval of the area management plan.

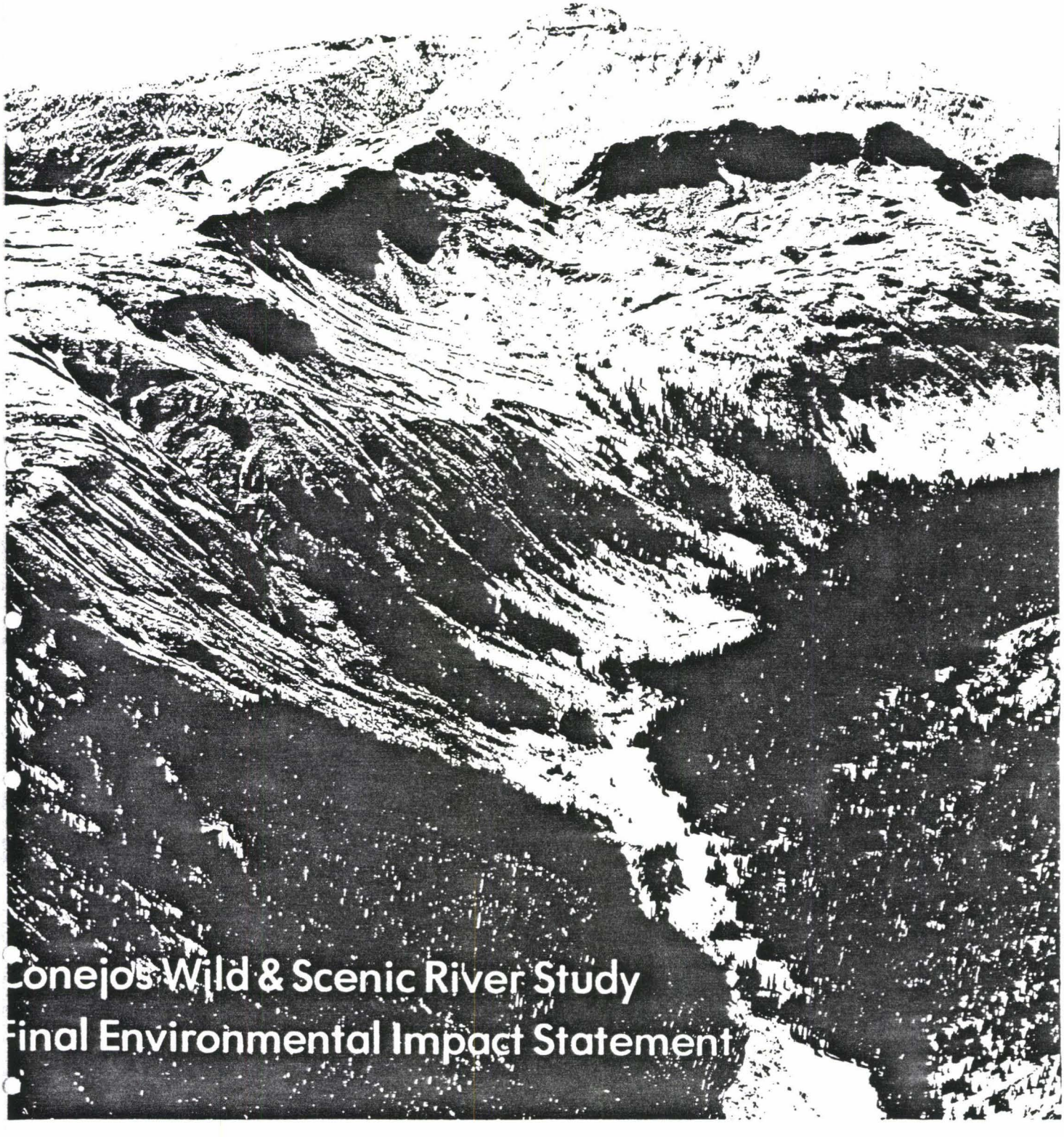
The Conejos River area possesses no known feasible hydroelectric power sites. The effect of designation on the timber resource is negligible and grazing use by domestic livestock would be unaffected. Designation of the river would reduce the average annual allowable timber sale quantity by about 42,000 board feet for the Rio Grande National Forest in which it is located.

The natural and scenic values of the Conejos River are irreplaceable resources. I believe the best use of the river and its immediate environment would be served by designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Proposed legislation to accomplish this is enclosed.

Sincerely,

John R. Block
Secretary

Enclosures



Conejos Wild & Scenic River Study
Final Environmental Impact Statement

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
02097905

CONEJOS WILD & SCENIC RIVER STUDY
CONEJOS COUNTY, COLORADO

Lead Agency:	USDA-Forest Service Post Office Box 2417 Washington, D.C. 20013
Cooporating Agency:	Colorado Department of Natural Resources Represented by the Colorado Conservation Board 1313 Sherman Denver, Colorado 80203
Responsible Official:	R. Max Peterson, Chief USDA - Forest Service P.O. Box 2417 Washington, D.C. 20013
For Information Contact:	George W. Whitlock, Jr., Forest Supervisor Rio Grande National Forest 1803 W. Highway 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144 (303) 852-5941

Abstract: This Environmental Impact Statement describes four alternatives regarding the eligibility and classification of the Conejos River for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The No Action Alternative is one of the four alternatives that are described. The statement discusses the estimated effects of implementing each of the alternatives. The Forest Service preferred alternative is identified.

SUMMARY

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

02097905

Type of Action:	Legislative
Responsible Federal Agency:	USDA - Forest Service Post Office Box 2417 Washington, D.C. 20013
Responsible Official:	R. Max Peterson, Chief USDA - Forest Service P.O. Box 2417 Washington, D.C. 20013
For Information Contact:	George W. Whitlock, Jr., Forest Supervisor Rio Grande National Forest 1803 W. Highway 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144 (303) 852-5941

Public Law 90-542, as amended, directed the Secretary of Agriculture to study the Conejos River for possible inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. A study team was organized in September of 1975 and consisted of representatives from the Rio Grande National Forest, representing the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and the Water Conservation Board, representing the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. The study team concluded that the North Fork, Middle Fork, El Rito Azul, and South Fork were eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as wild river areas. The Conejos River from Platoro Reservoir to the Highway 17 bridge was eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as recreation river area.

The Forest Service and the State of Colorado held a series of public meetings in Colorado and New Mexico from September 1975 through July 1979. Major issues and concerns identified through public involvement were (1) protection of wild, scenic, and recreational river values, (2) the effects of easements and government restrictions on private landowners, (3) the effects of increased recreation use and the loss of grazing privileges, and (4) the minimum water flow required to maintain wild and scenic river values.

The following four alternatives were considered: No Action, Environmental Quality One, Environmental Quality Two, Environmental Quality Three. The No Action Alternative reflects the current situation and potential for economic development. Environmental Quality One Alternative (EQ-1) protects 13.6 miles (4,352 acres) of wild river area values and 23.2 miles (7,424 acres) of recreational river area values. Environmental Quality Two Alternative (EQ-2) would protect 25.6 miles (8,192 acres) of wild river area values and 13.2 miles (4,224 acres) of recreational river area values. Environmental Quality Three Alternative (EQ-3) would protect 25.6 miles (8,192 acres) of wild river area values and 23.2 miles (7,424 acres) of recreational river area values. The Environmental Quality Two Alternative (EQ-2) is the Forest Service and State of Colorado preferred alternative.

Implementation of the Forest Service and State of Colorado preferred alternative would have the following impact: outstandingly remarkable wild river values would be protected along the 25.6 miles (8,192 acres) of the North Fork, Middle Fork, El Rito Azul, and the South Fork of the Conejos River. Outstandingly remarkable recreational river values would be protected along 13.2 miles (4,224 acres) of the Conejos River from Platoro Reservoir to the confluence of the South Fork.

Wild river areas would be withdrawn from mineral entry, while recreational river areas would remain available for entry with the exception of existing withdrawals. Water quality and the existing diversity of fish and wildlife habitat would be maintained and cultural resources would be protected on wild and recreational river areas. Recreational use would increase at a rate of five percent annually due to inclusion of the River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Federal water and power projects would not be permitted in the wild and recreational river areas unless approved by Congress. It is not anticipated that easements will be needed on private lands. Access for fire suppression would be non-motorized and/or air for wild river areas, and non-motorized, motorized, and/or air for recreational river areas. Livestock grazing would continue at 2,535 animal unit months for the foreseeable future. There are no known endangered or threatened species on that portion of the Conejos River studied.

This alternative would provide for the potential harvesting of 29,000 board feet of timber annually from the recreational river area.

Based on historic records, it appears that flows of 35 cubic feet per second at Platoro Reservoir and 100 cubic feet per second at the Highway 17 bridge are sufficient to accomplish the purposes of Wild and Scenic River designation in the summer months. This is not a claim for these flows. Flows below these volumes have occurred for short periods of time without apparent adverse effect. Because summer flows, on occasion, drop below these recommended volumes, new claims or reservations should not be permitted. Natural flows during winter months are sufficient to maintain wild and recreation river values. Acquisition of water rights is not recommended in the preferred alternative and there is no conflict with, or need to amend, the Rio Grande Interstate Compact.

Spectacle Lake, Conejos, and Lake Fork Campgrounds would be rehabilitated. Mix Lake Campground would be obliterated and replaced by a twenty unit campground in a more desirable location. Reconstruction of 25.6 miles of trail along the North Fork, Middle Fork, El Rito Azul, and South Fork would be required. A GS-7 Recreation Forester would be required to administer the area. A capital investment of $1,900,000 and an annual maintenance and administrative cost of $111,000 would be required.

This alternative would provide financial support for 315 people, provide 100 person years of labor of which 70 person years would be regional employment. Of the regional employment supported, 20 person years support women, 15 person years support minorities, and 10 person years support seasonal employment. The value to the gross regional product would be $1,335,000. There would be no irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources unless mineral extraction would occur in the recreational river area.

Another related federal action associated with some of the area in the Conejos River corridor is the Roadless Area Review and Evaluation Two (RARE II). The Administration has recommended portions of South San Juan Roadless Area (A2284) for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. That portion of the Conejos River above Platoro Reservoir is included in this area. The east boundary of this area is located on the river from Saddle Creek downstream to within two miles of Highway 17. The South Fork would be within this area. Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River designation of the same areas will be compatible. The management of the land in either system will in no way prohibit the management of the land under the other system on the Conejos River.

CONSULTATION WITH OTHERS

Comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement were received from:

Federal Agencies

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

U.S. Department of Army

U.S. Department of Commerce

U.S. Department of Energy

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S.D.A. Rural Electrification Administration

U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service

U.S.D.I. National Park Service

State Agencies

Colorado Governor Richard D. Lamm

Colorado Historical Society

Colorado Department of Health

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Colorado State Department of Highways

Colorado Division of Data Resources

Colorado Department of Agriculture

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Colorado Board of Land Commissioners

Department of Local Affairs, Colorado Division of Planning

Interest Groups

American Wilderness Alliance

Antonito Chamber of Commerce

Antonito Senior Citizens Association

Arkansas Valley Audubon Society

Aspen Center for Environmental Studies

Atlantic Richfield Company

Boulder Audubon Society

CF&I Steel Corporation

Center for Urban Affairs

Colorado Conservancy

Colorado Farm Bureau

Colorado Mountain Club

Colorado Wool Growers Assn.

National Public Lands Task Force

New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee

Public Lands Institute

Regis College

Trout Unlimited - Colorado State Council

United Sportsman Council of Colorado

University of Colorado Wilderness Study Group

Wildlife Management Institute

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Spatz, Don
Stolte, Dennis
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Turner, Winnifred
VanderZanden, Karla
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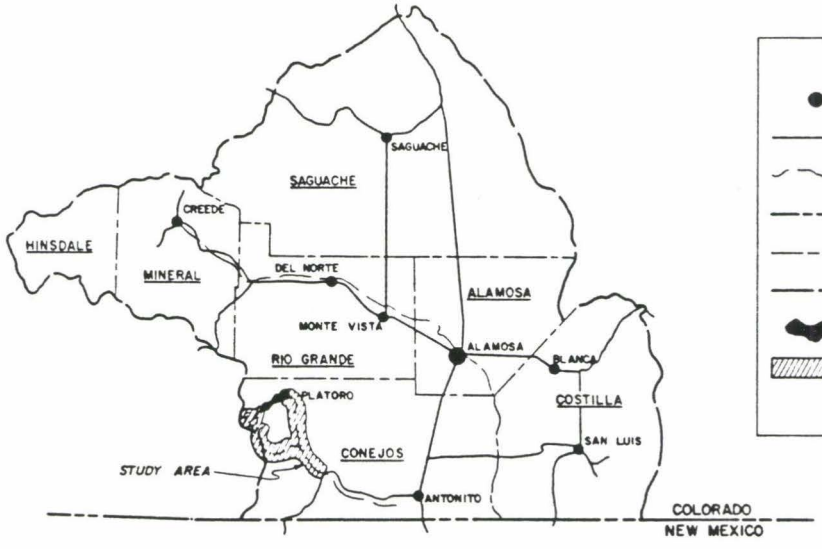
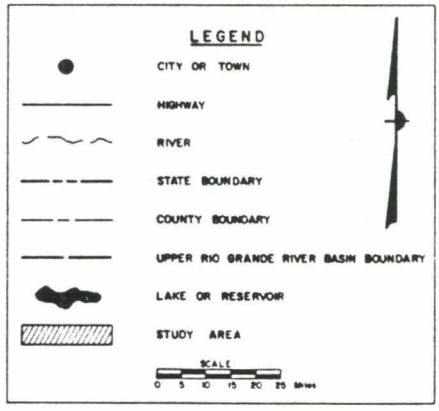
Woolley, Dale D.
Woolley, Lynne
Woolley, Scott Douglas
Woolley, Thomas
Woolley, Tommie Sue
Woolley, Tracy

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY AREA
UPPER RIO GRANDE RIVER BASIN
LOCATION MAP

LOCATION MAP





I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Study and Final Environmental Impact Statement is to document the analysis leading to a recommendation concerning the Conejos River's eligibility and potential for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The statement describes alternatives and effects, then evaluates and selects the Forest Service and State of Colorado preferred alternative.

The Conejos Wild and Scenic River Study was directed by The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, PL 90-542, as amended, which designated "the three forks from their source to their confluence, thence the Conejos River to its first junction with State Highway 17, excluding Platoro Reservoir," for study as a potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 90-542, as amended, Sections 5(d) and 12(a) directs federal agencies to review lands which include, border upon, or are adjacent to the river being considered for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; therefore, the South Fork of the Conejos River was included in the study.

The study area is located on the Alamosa and Conejos Ranger Districts, Rio Grande National Forest, Conejos County, State of Colorado. The area is currently managed under the direction contained in the Forest Multiple Use Management Guide. 1/ If the river is included in the National System, a management plan will be prepared to provide direction for the protection and perpetuation of wild and recreational river values.

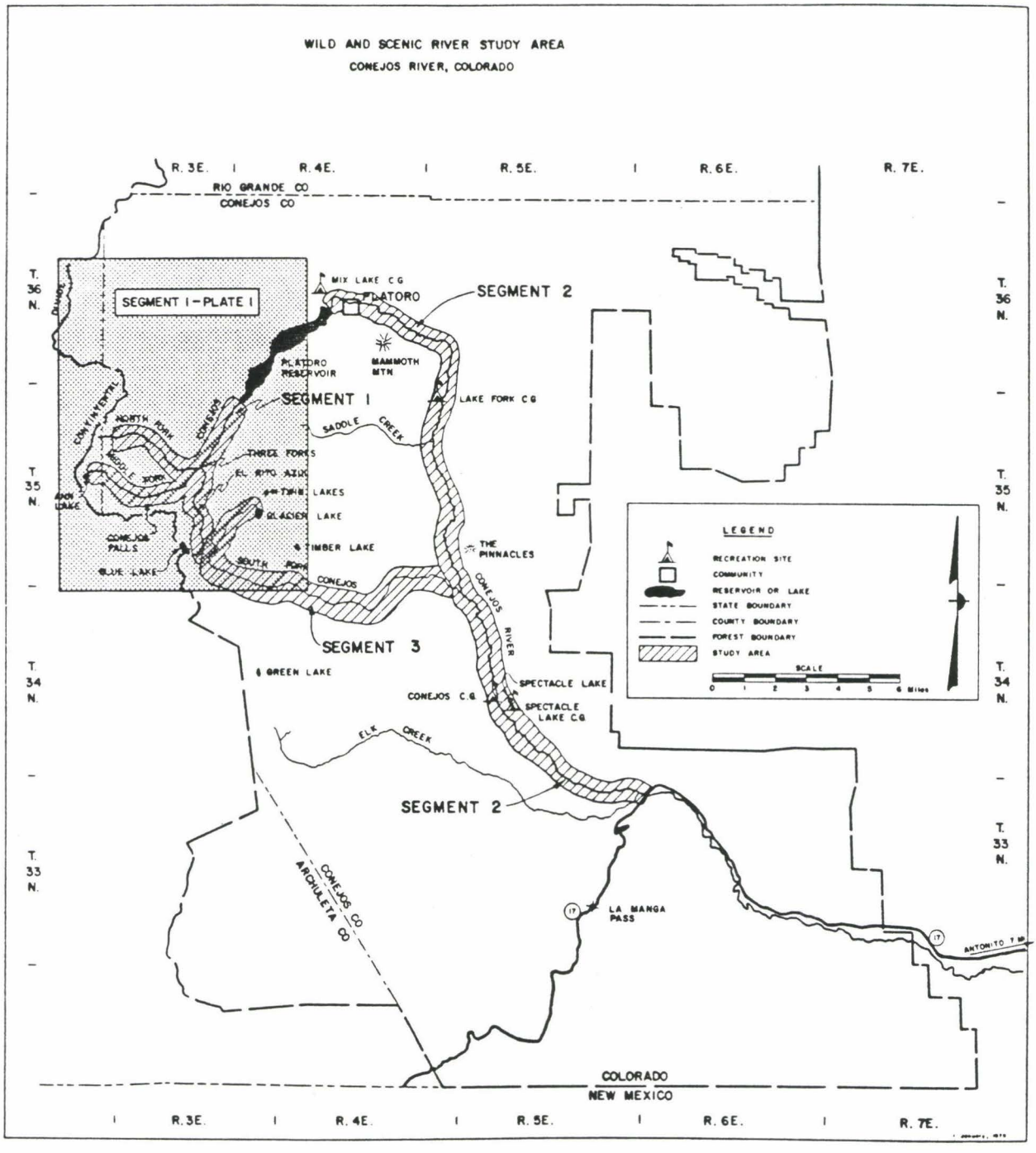
A joint Federal-State study began with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, represented by the Forest Service, and the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, represented by the Colorado Water Conservation Board. The United States Department of Interior, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service served in an advisory capacity to the agencies involved in the study.

1/ The Rio Grande National Forest Multiple Use Guide is on file at the Forest Supervisor's Office, Monte Vista, Colorado.

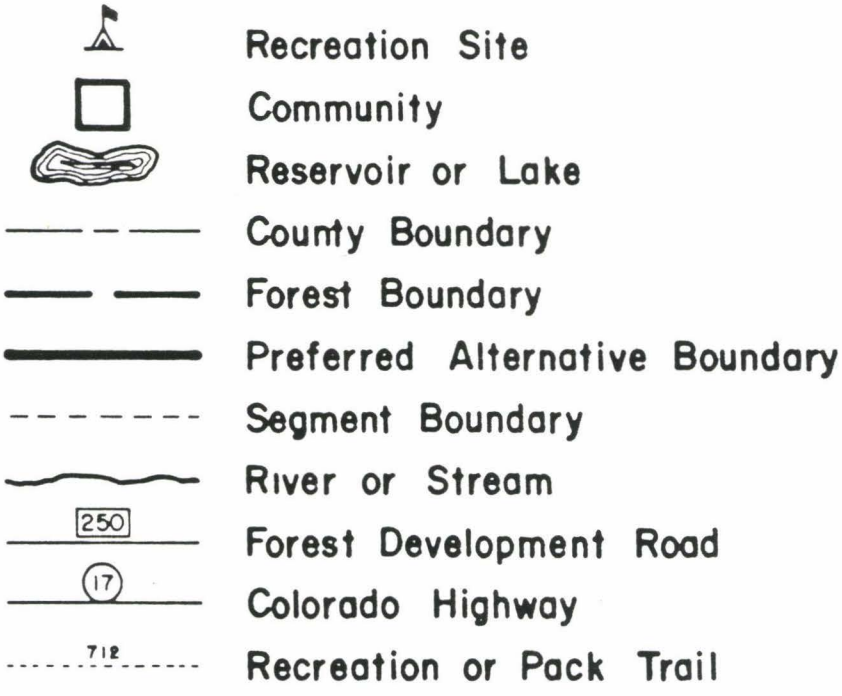
The study began in September 1975 and was concluded in 1979 with the preparation of the Conejos Wild and Scenic River Draft Environmental Statement and Report. It involved gathering and analyzing natural resource, economic, and social data for determining the river's eligibility and classification alternatives for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The effects of classification upon the environment, national economic development, regional development, and social well-being were considered.

Substantial information on the Conejos River was already available in various reports by federal, state and local agencies. New data, particularly on stream flow and water quality, were collected by members of the Rio Grande National Forest Study Team. A parallel study of long-term management strategies for the San Juan Mountain Planning Unit also provided data useful for the river study. However, to evaluate the river for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, the study team required a more intimate acquaintance with the river than could be gathered from records. This the team gained by detailed field examination.

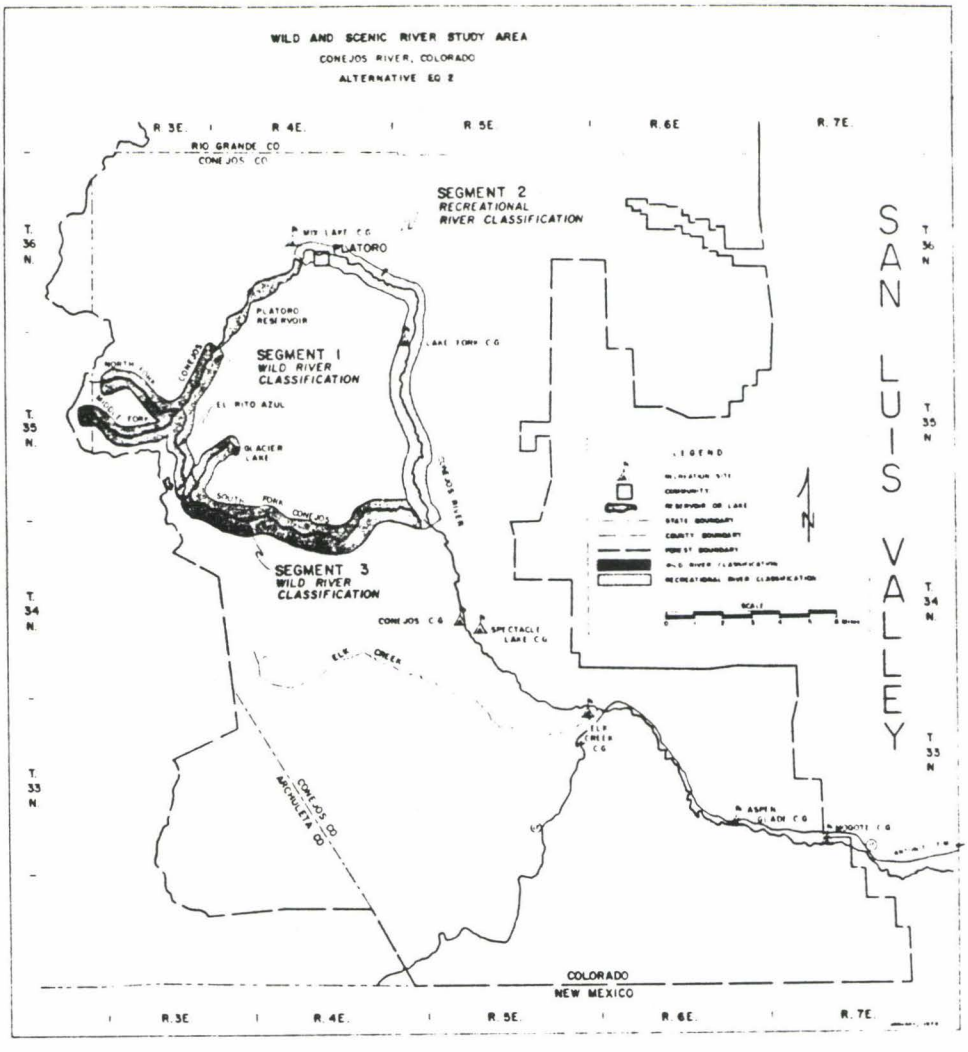
Public involvement was an integral part of the study and included a series of five public meetings and various personal contacts. The major issues and concerns resulting from contacts with the public were: (1) protection of wild, scenic, and recreation river values, (2) the effects of easements and government restrictions on private landowners, (3) the effects of increased recreation use and the loss of grazing privileges, and (4) the minimum water flows required to maintain wild and scenic river values. Alternatives were formulated based on public input and alternative selection is favored by the majority of the public.


WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY AREA
CONEJOS RIVER, COLORADO
R. 3E.
R. 4E.
R. 5E.
R. 6E.
R. 7E.
RIO GRANDE CO
CONEJOS CO
T. 36 N.
T. 35 N.
T. 34 N.
T. 33 N.
SEGMENT 1 - PLATE 1
SEGMENT 1
SEGMENT 2
SEGMENT 3
MIX LAKE C.G.
PLATORO
PLATORO RESERVOIR
MAMMOTH MTN.
LAKE FORK C.G.
SADDLE CREEK
CONTINENTAL
NORTH FORK
CONEJOS
MIDDLE FORK
THREE FORKS
EL RITO AZUL
TIMBER LAKES
GLACIER LAKE
TIMBER LAKE
SOUTH FORK
CONEJOS FALLS
BLUE LAKE
THE PINNACLES
CONEJOS RIVER
GREEN LAKE
CONEJOS C.G.
SPECTACLE LAKE
SPECTACLE LAKE C.G.
ELK CREEK
CONEJOS CO
ARCHULETA CO
LA MANGA PASS
ANTONITO
COLORADO
NEW MEXICO
LEGEND
RECREATION SITE
COMMUNITY
RESERVOIR OR LAKE
STATE BOUNDARY
COUNTY BOUNDARY
FOREST BOUNDARY
STUDY AREA
SCALE
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 Miles

LEGEND



PRIVATE LAND USES



Environmental Quality Two Alternative (EQ-2)

Environmental Quality Two Alternative (EQ-2) proposes that 38.8 miles of the river be designated by Congress as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. During the study of the Conejos River, it became evident that the inclusion of the 12 mile South Fork as a wild river would enhance and contribute to environmental quality objectives. At the same time, it was recognized that the 10 mile segment of the Conejos River from the confluence of the South Fork to Highway 17 possessed marginal wild and scenic values and consisted mostly of privately owned land. Therefore, the 12 mile segment of the South Fork was included and the lower 10 miles of the Conejos River was excluded in this alternative.

River Segments	Designation	Miles Of River	Total Acres	Acres Private Land
Segments 1 & 3	Wild River Area	25.6	8,192	0
Segment 2	Recreational River Area	13.2	4,224	706
Total		38.8	12,416	706

COST SUMMARY BY MANAGEMENT ACTION ITEMS

Air and Water Resources

a. Synoptic Lake Survey - 1992
   Hydrologist - 5 days @ 170 - 900
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 5 days @ 146 - 700 Total -$1,600

b. Air Quality Monitoring Plan - Completed/Uddate
   Hydrologist - 20 days @ 170 - $3,400

c. Future Lake Surveys - Biannually
   Hydrologist - 5 days @ 170 - 900
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 5 days @ 146 - 700 Total - $1,600

d. Air Qaulity Data - Annually
   Maintain monitoring devices - $2,500

e. Bacteriological Samples - 1994
   Supervise volunteers (1 GS - 11) 2 days @ 175 - 350
   Volunteer per diem - 3,000
   Bacteriological tests - $500 per lake - 10 lakes - $5,000
   Total - $8,400

f. Validity of Water Rights - 1995
   District Wilderness Staff (1 GS-11) 30 days @ 175 - $5,300

Riparian Resource

a. Develop Riparian classification - 1993
   Hydrologist - 10 days @ 170 - $1,700

b. Complete Riparian Inventory - 1992
   Hydrologist - 20 days @ 170 - $3,400
   District Range Cons (4 GS-9) 8 days @ 130 - $1,100 Total - $4,500

c. Monitor 30% streams/riparian areas - 1993/biannually
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 10 days @ 146 - $1,500
   Hydrologist - (training) - 1 day @ 170 -$200 Total - $1,700

d. Develop Riparian Map - 1992
   Hydrologist - 2 days @ 170 - $340

Soil Resource

a. Soil Monitoring (30% of inventoried campsites) - 1993/every 3rd yr.
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 25 days @ 146 - $3,700

Soil Resource

b. Soil Reclamation Prescription - When Needed
Wilderness Assistant Staff (GS-9) - 1 day @ 160 - $160
Soil Specialist - 1 day @ 171 - $171 Total - $350

Mineral Resource

a. Monitor Unauthorized Mining Activity - Annually
Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 5 days @ 146 - $800
Enforcement Action If Necessary
Level IV - 5 days @ 100 - $500 Total - $1,300

Vegetation Resource

a. Complete Computation of Campsite Inventory Data - 1993
District Wilderness Personnel (1 GS-9 & 1 GS-5) - $2,300

b. Re-evaluate 30% of Inventoried Campsites - 1993/every 3rd yr.
Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) - 25 days @ 146 - $3,700

c. Evaluate Inventoried Campsite Location W/Wilderness Settings - 1994
District Wilderness Personnel (GS-9) 6 days @ 160 - $1,000

d. Monitor Plan For Special Concern Species - 1995
Forest Ecologist - 10 days @ 170 - 1,700
Wilderness Personnel - (GS-9) - 2 days @ 160 - 320 Total - $2,100
State Involvement - $2,000
Implement Plan
Wilderness Ranger (1 GS-5) - 5 days @ 73 - $400

Insect and Disease

a. Monitor For Activity - Annually
Wilderness Ranger (1 GS-5) - 5 days @ 73 - $400

Fire Resource

a. Suppression Action - When Fires Occur
District Ranger - 3 days @ 216 - $700
District Fire Staff - (GS-11) - 5 days @ 175 - $900
Suppression Forces - $3,000 Total - $5,000/Fire

Range Resource

a. Management of Allotments - Annually (Identified Allotments)
District Range Staff - (GS-11) 10 days @170 - $1,700
District Range Assistant Staff - (GS-9) 10 days @ 150 - $1,500
District Range Conservationist - (GS-5) 20 days @ 65 - $1,300
Total - $4,500

Range Resource

b. Allotment Prioritization List - 1992
   District Range Staff - (GS-11) - 2 days @ 170 - $350

c. Coordinate Allotment Management - Annually
   District Range Staff (GS-11) 2 days @ 170 - 340
   District Range Assistant Staff (GS-9) 2 days @ 150 - 300
   District Wilderness Personnel - (GS-9) 2 days @ 130 - 260
   Total - $1,000

d. Update Range Analysis - When Funded
   District Range Conservationist (GS-5) 25 days @ 65 - $1,700/Allotment

e. Monitor Key Range Area Per Allotment - Annually
   District Range Conservationist - (GS-5) 5 days @ 65 - 325
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 10 days @ 146 - 1,460 Total - $1,800

f. Annual Permittee Meetings - Annually (Include Wilderness Concerns)
   District Range Staff (GS-11) 10 days @ 170 - 1,700
   District Assistant Range Staff (GS-9) 10 days @ 150 - 1,500
   Total - $3,200

g. Coordination Meeting With DOW - 1992
   District Range Staff - (GS-11) - 1 day @ 170 - 170
   District Asstistant Range Staff (GS-9) - 1 day @ 150 - 150
   District Wilderness Staff (GS-11 @ GS-9)- 1 day @ 335 - 335
   District Wildlife Biologist (GS-9) - 1 day @ 140 - 140
   Total - $800
   State Wildlife Managers (2) - $500

h. Forage Utilization Standards For Outfitters - 1994
   District Assistant Range Staff (GS-9) 5 days @ 150 - 750
   District Wilderness Personnel (GS-9) 5 days @ 160 - 800
   Total - $1,500
   Monitor Annually
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) - 20 days @ 146 - $3,000

Fish and Wildlife Resource

a. Evaluate Wildlife Impacts - Allotment Mgmt Plans - When Scheduled
   District Wildlife Biologist - (GS-9) - 10 days @ 140 - 1,400
   District Assistant Range Staff - (GS-9) - 10 days @ 150 - 1,500
   Total - $2,900

b. Monitor Ecosystem Conditions and Trends - 1993/Every 3rd yr.
   District Wildlife Biologist (GS-9) - 5 days @ 140 - 700
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) - 10 days @ 146 - 1,500 Total - $2,200

Fish and Wildlife Resource

c. Develop Fish Stocking Plan - 1994
   Disrict Wildlife Biologist (GS-9) - 3 days @ 140 - 420
   District Wilderness Personnel - (GS-9) 5 days @ 160 - 800
   Total - $1,250
   DOW - District Managers (2) - $500

d. Conduct Wildlife T & E Check - 1995
   District Wildlife Biologist (GS-9) - 5 days @ 140 - 700
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) - 5 days @ 146 - 800 Total - $1,500

Proposed Wild & Scenic River

a. Inventory Proposed River Segments - 1994
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5/check ground conditions) 2 days @ 146 - 300
   District Wilderness Personnel (GS-9/mgmt action) 5 days @ 160 - 800
   Total - $1,100

b. Work For Legislative Designation - Ongoing
   Forest Recreation Staff (GS-11) - 5 days @ 170 - 900
   District Ranger - 5 days @ 216 - 1,100
   District Wilderness Staff (GS-11) - 5 days @ 175 - 900 Total - $3,000

Cultural Resource

a. Survey/Document Cultural Resources - 1997
   Forest Archeologist - 10 days @ 140 - 1,400
   Forest Para - Archeologist - 10 days @ 70 - 700
   District Para - Archeologist - 10 days @ 100 - 1,000
   Total - $2,100/year

b. Cultural Information and Education - 1998
   Forest Archeologist - 15 days @ 140 - 2,100
   District Wilderness Personnel (GS-9) - 5 days @ 160 - 80
   Graphics & Production - 3,000 Total - $6,000

Law Enforcement

a. Enforce Current Forest Orders - Annually
   Level IV - 10 days @ 100 - 1,000
   Level II - Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 10 days @ 146 - 1,500
   Total - $2,500

b. Level II Training
   All Wilderness Personnel - $5,000

Search and Rescue

a. Develop Search and Rescue Plan - 1993
   District Ranger - 1 day @ 216 - 216
   District Wilderness Staff (GS-11) 5 days @ 175 - 900
   Total - $1,200
   Sheriff's Department - $500

Transportation System

a. Develop Sign Plan - 1996
   Wilderness Ranger (GS-5) 30 days @ 73 - $2,200

b. Develop Trail Log - 1996
   Forest Trail Specialist (Training) - 3 days @ 195 - 600
   Wilderness Ranger (GS-5) 40 days @ 73 - 3,000 Total - $3,600

c. Maintain Existing Trails, Signs, Trailheads - Annually
   Trails - $20,000
   Signs - $ 5,000
   Trailheads - $10,000
   Total - $35,000

Recreation Management

a. Develop Social Monitoring System - 1994/Implement - 1995
   District Wilderness Personnel (GS-11/Develop criteria) - 5 days @ 175
   900
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5/Implement) - 10 days @ 146 - 1,500
   Total - $2,400 / Every 2 yrs. - $1,500

b. Develop Visitor Use Monitoring System - 1994/Implement - 1995
   District Wilderness Staff (GS-11) - 5 days @ 175 - 900 - 1994
   Wilderness Rangers (2 GS-5) 20 days @ 146 - 3,000 - 1995/Annually

c. Party Size Limit - Ongoing
   Wilderness Rangers (2GS-5) - 10 days @ 146 - $1,500

d. Develop Information and Education - 1994
   Forest Recreation Staff - 10 days @ 170 - 1,700
   District Wilderness Staff - 10 days @ 175 - 1,800
   Graphics and Production - 3,500
   Total - $7,000

e. Low-Impact Technique Training - Annually
   Forest Recreation Staff - 2 days @ 170 - 340
   District Wilderness Personnel (GS-9) 3 days @ 160 - 500
   Wilderness Rangers - 2 days @ 146 - 300
   Trail Crew - 4 days @ 73 - 300
   Total - $1,500

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Rio Grande National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan - Approved by the Regional Forester, January, 1985.

San Juan National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan - Approved by the Regional Forester, January, 1982.

Public Law 96 - 560; Colorado Wilderness Act, December 22, 1980; 10 pages.
Title I - Statement of Findings and Policy; Title II - Additional Designated National Forest System Lands, Maps and Descriptions and Administration of Wilderness.

Wilderness Management Philosophy, Rocky Mountain Region, September, 1989; 32 pages.
American Wilderness Alliance - Jerry Mallett and Clifton Merritt Colorado Mountain Club - Rocky Smith and Ann Vickery; Colorado Open Space Elinor Colbourn and Larry Mehlhaff; National Audubon Society - Polly Plaza Sierra Club - Maggie Fox and Marty Sorensen; The University of Iowa - Dr. Craig W. Allin; The Wilderness Society - Gloria Hefand and Michael D. Scott; Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region - Stan Allgeier, Raymond Benton, Dennis Bschor, Lee Carr, Ray Evans, Charles McConnell, Sonny O'Neal, Stan Sylva, Marvin Vanderkolk and Peter Wingle.
(Outlines goals, perceived problems causing inconsistencies, general wilderness philosophy, wilderness administration guidelines and the Wilderness Act of 1964).

Ideas For Wilderness Implementation Schedules, June, 1990; 90 pages.
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Recreation, Cultural Resources and Wilderness Management Staff, Washington D.C.
(Outlines an overview of wilderness implementation schedules; how implementation schedules relate to Forest Plans and other resources; the importance of wilderness implementation schedules; steps involved in writing implementation schedules; how Limits of Acceptable Change process can be used; what NEPA processes should be used and examples of resource analysis; public involvement; inventory and plans; actions plans and opportunity classes).

The Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) System for Wilderness Planning; General Technical Report - INT - 176; January, 1985; 37 pages.
George H. Stankey, David N. Cole, Robert C. Lucas, Margaret E. Petersen, Sidney S. Frissell.
(This paper describes the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) system, a framework for establishing acceptable and appropriate resource and social conditions in various recreation settings. The system is a nine-step process).

Managing Wilderness Recreation Use: Common Problems and Potential Solutions; General Technical Report - INT - 230; August, 1987; 60 pages. David N. Cole, Margaret E. Petersen, Robert C. Lucas.
(This report summarizes information on alternative management tactics available for dealing with common wilderness problems. The first section of the report describes eight basic strategies for attacking problems. The second section describes the nature of general problems resulting from recreational use of wilderness. This report should serve as a "trouble - shooting" guide).

Low-Impact Recreational Practices for Wilderness and Backcountry; General Technical Report - INT - 265; August, 1989; 131 pages. David N. Cole.
(This report summarizes information on low-impact recreational practices in backcountry and wilderness areas. The first section describes common problems caused by recreational use of backcountry and factors that influence the magnitude of these problems. The second section describes each low-impact practice, using a standard format. A third section discusses practices that have been recommended but might result in problems. A final section discusses major research gaps in knowledge about behaviors capable of minimizing problems. This report is intended to serve as a source book of information on low-impact practices).